



MISSION

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy's mission is to preserve and manage the Appalachian Trail — ensuring that its vast natural beauty and priceless cultural heritage can be shared and enjoyed today, tomorrow, and for centuries to come.

JOURNEYS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE APPAI ACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY / SPRING 2017

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The Dream of Katahdin

Appalachian Trail, it is a shared dream to climb Katahdin, the northern terminus of the A.T. Legendary Trail builder Myron Avery spearheaded the arduous task of clearing, carving, and a ban on public consumption of alcohol in blazing the route to this most majestic peak on the park. the entire Trai, which was completed in 1933.

former Maine Governor Percival Baxter conveyed the ownership of Baxter Peak to the state as the first gifted parcel of what was to become Baxter State Park. This park is one of the most spectacular wildlands in the eastern United States, and today embraces more than 200,000 acres of the majestic high peaks, lakes, and rivers in the Maine North Woods. A new National Park Monument on the eastern side of the park was recently established by former President Obama through a gift of almost 90,000 acres by Roxanne Quimby.

The A.T. hike up the steep and craggy slopes of Katahdin is both a serious physical challenge and a hugely emotional experience for all A.T. hikers. On my thru-hike in 1978, I remember the incredible joy and emotional moment of being the first person that day during Labor Day weekend to reach the top.

Today, that same trek attracts many more day hikers as well as those traveling 100 miles or more on the A.T. from the south or beginning a southbound thru-hike. In 1991, the park recorded a total of 359 A.T. hikers who registered for a hike to Baxter Peak. Last year, more than 2,600 A.T. hikers entered the park for a Katahdin climb.

In February, Baxter State Park announced that for the first time it will limit the number of long-distance A.T. hikers through its permit system who are allowed to access Katahdin. Permit cards will be issued to four categories: Northbound, Southbound, Section and Flip-Flop hikers. The number of total permits available is set at 3,150, 15 percent more than the 2016 equivalent A.T. hiker numbers registered.

Baxter initiated a permit requirement last year without any limit on numbers. In collaboration with the Maine Appalachian Trail Club, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) staffed a visitor center in Monson last summer to inform

FOR THOSE OF US WHO LOVE THE and educate A.T. hikers on the Baxter permit system and the importance of complying with the park's rules, such as limits on group size, protection of the unique alpine environment,

There is general agreement that A.T. hiker This historic event happened the same year compliance with park rules and behavior improved significantly last year. For that reason, the ATC was hopeful Baxter would not impose a cap on hiker numbers until there was more experience and data available to determine if such a quota was necessary. We are disappointed the Baxter Park Authority made that decision after only one year of experience with the A.T. hiker

> While we understand and appreciate the management challenges to Baxter resulting from the growing popularity of hiking the A.T., we disagree with the park's decision. The ATC's Board approved an A.T. Visitor Use Management policy statement last May that states management actions are "intended to achieve the desired balance of protecting the resource and maintaining the desired visitor experience, while placing the least constraints on the individual hiker."

> Katahdin is not the only place on the Trail impacted by large numbers of hikers who challenge land managers and threaten to degrade the A.T. hiking experience. Other notable examples include the spring hiking season in Georgia, 70-plus miles in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, MacAfee Knob in central Virginia, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Bear Mountain in New York, Bull's Bridge in Connecticut, and the White Mountains.

> Moving forward, the experience at Katahdin will provide valuable data for how to manage these other popular areas. However, one thing we already know is that limits on hiker numbers should be a last resort.

Ronald J. Tipton / President & CEO Sandra Marra / Chair

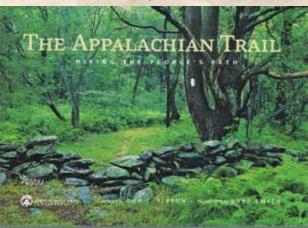
For more information visit: baxterstateparkauthority.com and appalachiantrail.org/bsppermitlimit







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FARM TO FEET

a "mini coffee-table book," is an inspirational photographic tour of the Appalachian Trail through the eyes of photographer Bart Smith, the first person known to walk all 11

national scenic trails. A hardcover in 7" x 5" format, it begins with a foreword by ATC President

Ron Tipton, as a prelude to more than 170 spectacular images along the Trail from Springer to Kathadin. Co-published by Rizzoli International and the ATC in February and already rising up the ranks of new landscape photography books.



(Store hours: Mon. - Fri., 9 am - 4:30 pm Eastern)



Buy direct from the Ultimate Appalachian Trail Store and ensure a maximum return to the Trail.



CELEBRATING 2,000-MILERS

Though the style of hike varied from northbound, southbound, and flip-flop thru-hikers to dedicated section hikers — 1,133 people reported their completion of the A.T. this past year.

10 / THE SOUL OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Since the Trail's creation almost a century ago, volunteers have been the back bone of the A.T.'s existence — today it is one of the largest volunteer efforts in the world.

30 / CUTTING TO THE CORE

By opposing a gas pipeline that would heavily impact the A.T. and it's corridor in northwest Virginia, the ATC continues to set the bar for other national scenic and historic trails across the nation.

35 / 2017 CONFERENCE

Join your fellow Trail lovers for hikes, workshops, and festivities at the 41st Appalachian Trail Conservancy Conference in Waterville, Maine.

I4/TRAILHEAD

Winner of the myATstory Contest; Tick-borne Awareness; The New A.T. CAMP Registration System

65 / AS I SEE IT

As an undergraduate, Kelly Garvy's dream was to work in the outdoors immersed in nature — a decade later she is finding that protecting the natural world she loves also requires strong advocacy.

O4/WELCOME

o8 / LETTERS

63 / TRAIL GIVING

64 / PUBLIC NOTICES

Come join the Appalachian Trail
Conservancy and the towns of
Harpers Ferry and Bolivar as we
celebrate the Appalachian Trail's
"psychological mid-point" as a great
place to begin hikes of any lengths!

Highlights on Saturday will include music, family-friendly games, food, and vendors. Derick "Mr. Fabulous" Lugo will provide the Saturday evening entertainment: *An Unlikely Thru-Hiker*. Sunday will include a pancake breakfast, a thru-hiker send-off, and a guided African American History Hike. On both days, a wide variety of workshops will be offered related to hiking and backpacking, the history of Harpers Ferry, and enjoyment of the outdoors.

The festival celebrates "Flip-Flop Thru-Hikers" who start their epic 2,190-mile journeys in Harpers Ferry, walk a thousand miles, and then "flip" back to Harpers Ferry to complete the southern half of the Trail. These hikers are helping spread out use along the nation's most popular long-distance hiking trail.

The festival showcases Harpers Ferry as a scenic and historic destination with a wealth of outdoor recreation opportunities including not only hiking, but cycling, climbing, and rafting.

Visit: appalachiantrail.org/flipflop or the Flip Flop Festival Facebook event page for all the details.













WHEN I READ THE HEADLINE FOR

Ronald Tipton's message ("What Does Trump Mean for the A.T.?"; Winter 2017) my first thought was here we go again — another liberal political rant. But instead I found an article that spoke about a willingness to work with administrations from both the left and the right. What a breath of fresh air! As a lifelong conservative — who does love the outdoors, recycles to the extreme, buys used books, packs in/packs out, etc. (yes, conservatives can love nature too) — I have found myself over the years dropping contributions to organizations like the Sierra Club and Audubon because of their extreme partisan views and statements. Thank you Ron for acknowledging organizations such as the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) should not play politics and should openly work with all sides to achieve the best results possible for their cause. Being a retiree, I have to spread my donations out over the year according to my budget, but when [ATC's] comes up in the Fall, I will be sending in my donation and increasing it because this article makes me believe my money is being spent trying to further the goal of maintaining the A.T. for future generations and not to express a political viewpoint. Thank you Ron for confirming my belief the [ATC] is an organization I can get behind!

> Jean Scholl Berg CUMMING, GEORGIA

I HAVE LONG BEEN A LIFETIME

member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC). I read [every issue of A.T. Journeys] cover to cover. Mr. Tipton's article "What Does Trump Mean for the A.T.?" concerns me. I am a staunch conservative who strongly supports clean water, clean air, and the ATC. But I am not a liberal and I did vote for Donald Trump. It is only people with the means to do so who have so graciously and generously given of their money and time to build the ATC into what it is today. Perhaps a more cooperative attitude is needed for the ATC to work with President Trump over the next four years, not an antagonistic attitude. He was elected our president and the people who voted against him are going

to have to work with him over the next to the Trail. The heartwarming stories four years. Let's get on with it together.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

KUDOS! TO CLAIRE POLFUS AND

her contributors to a great article ("100 Mile Wilderness," Winter 2017). It contained the history, the allure, and the vision for a great segment of the A.T. (one that I someday hope to hike). I write to ask [the author and area ridgerunners] to provide some examples of "hikers with antiquated views." Hopefully, I am not one of them, but you don't know what you don't know. Maybe this is an opportunity to educate on this issue, with examples of outdated views. With three other friends. we hiked the Shenandoah National Park section of A.T. last June. Had a great time, met lots of wonderful people, including about 40 thru-hikers. So, here is a shout out to [all those fellow hikers including a Potomac A.T. Club ridgerunner]. You helped make our 10-day hike wonderful!

Dave "JITA" Behrle SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA

from the "Mind Over Matter" feature [for instance] highlights the positivity we all need now more than ever with the divisiveness all around us. The Trail brings us all together with shared goals, experiences, and resources...really a microcosm of this country and beyond. If we could share some of the Trail "lessons learned" with those who haven't experienced its wonder, we might solve some of the world's problems.

> Amy Reaume ROCKLEDGE, FLORIDA

A.T. Journeys welcomes your comments The editors are committed to providing balanced and objective perspectives. Not all letters received may be published. Letters may be edited for clarity and



editor@appalachiantrail.org

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JUST FINISHED READING THE

most recent A.T. Journeys magazine and felt compelled to say thank you! Immersing myself in these articles brings me back

f I had my son in the

woods at 6 weeks. He loves

the outdoors! Now he's 14

months and nothing puts

a smile on his face like me

getting his back pack out

of the closet. Start them

forever. Best gift you can

give a child is the Great

Outdoors! Trevis Swilley

f When I did my thru-

hike in 2003 I can tell you

it was all mental. Was it

hard physically? Yes, but

not as hard as embracing

the suck of weather, and

feeling like I was going to

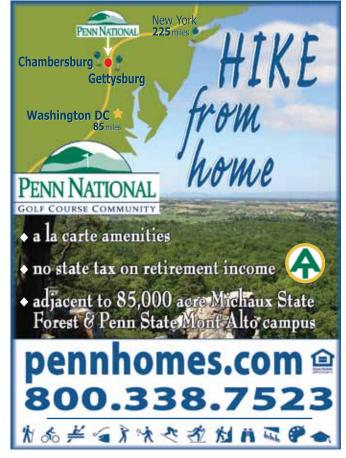
young, and they will love it

work every day. You have to find a reason to be grateful every single day of your hike. That includes having a good positive mental attitude. Scott lanz

© @consjunkie Worked for Student Conservation Association and Appalachian Mountain Club for the Maine ATC in 1978. Solidified my conservation ethic and led to a 30-year career in environmental protection. Thanks A.T.

© @bazebeau For what it's worth, my husband and I lashed (long-a**-sectionhiked) in 2013 for 1,000 miles (VA -> CT) and when he got back he put it on his resume and employers were impressed. So I imagine a complete thru-hike would be even better. It didn't hurt me either, my old job called and offered me a better position before I even got back. Neither of our careers are hiking related. I know this doesn't always happen but even if it had set our careers back, it would have been worth it. Lashing that summer was one of the best decisions we've ever made. Happy hiking y'all! A







The Joul of the Appalachian Trail

"The body of the Trail is provided by the lands it traverses, and its soul is the living stewardship of the volunteers and

Volunteers Play a Vital

Role in Protecting and

Maintaining the Trail

workers of the Appalachian Trail community." This is the sentiment of Benton MacKaye who introduced the idea of an Appalachian Trail in 1921. And it became part of the Trail's definition in the Appala-

chian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) A.T. Management Principles.

That sentiment rang true in 1921 and is still true today, nearly 100 years later. The Trail exists almost exclusively thanks to volunteers. In fact, the Appalachian Trail is one of the largest volunteer efforts in the world, with more than 250,000 logged volunteer hours recorded last year, according to Ron Tipton, the ATC's president and CEO.

In some ways, volunteering over the past 90 years has changed immensely, and in other ways it's similar to its roots. The structure of Trail management is largely the same, with the ATC headquarters in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia and a few dozen Trail clubs — currently 31 — along the length of the Trail. Though there are a few paid positions in these organizations, they all rely heavily on volunteer manpower.

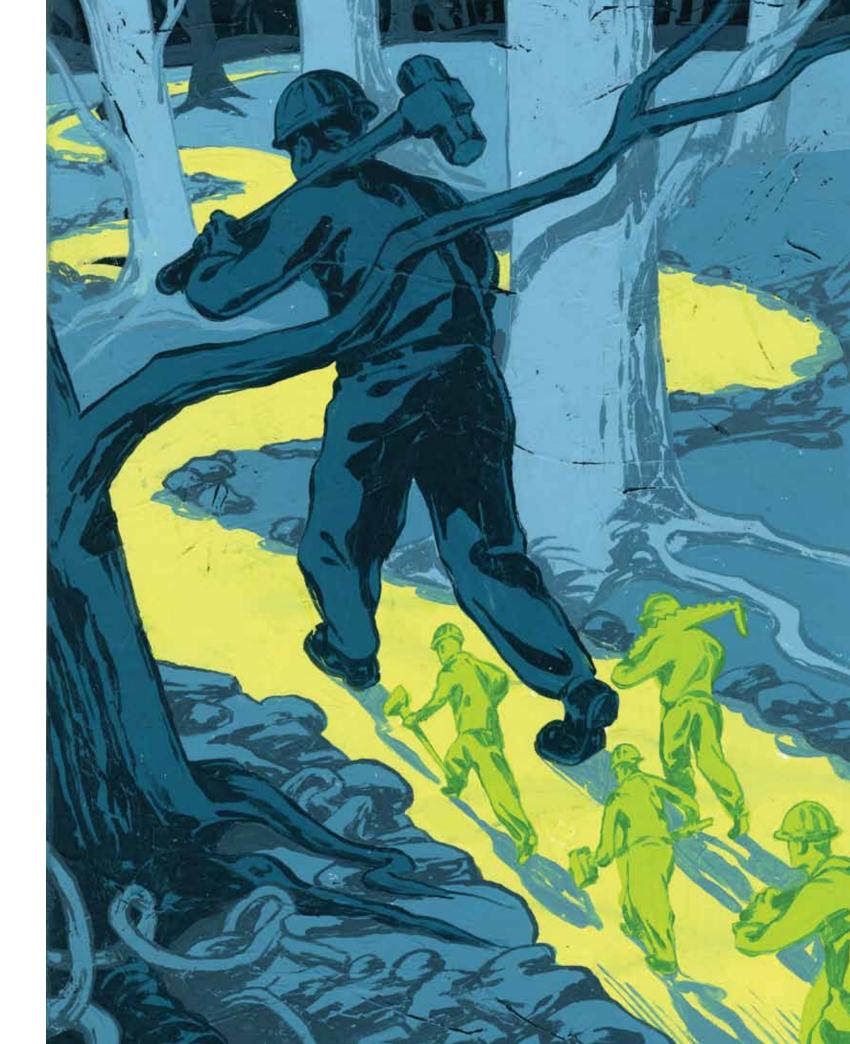
David Field has been an active volunteer in many capacities for more than 60 years, and has witnessed the evolution of the volunteer program first hand. His relationship with the Trail began in 1955, when he went hiking along the A.T. in the Bigelow Mountain range with his brother and some friends. A hurricane had recently devastated the area, and it took the group two days to hike six miles due to debris on the Trail. "We had never heard of the ATC or the Maine Appalachian Trail Club (MATC)," Field says. "We just said 'someone has to clear the Trail,' and we went home to get axes and saws and cleared it. It was just a response to a need." Later, Field and his brother returned to finish clearing the Trail; they removed 250 blowdowns in one day.

Throughout their effort, Field, his brother, and their friends recorded their progress in a nearby shelter's register. The MATC took notice, and soon asked them to join the organization. Field was officially assigned 7.2 miles of the Trail, from Orbeton Stream to the summit of Saddleback Mountain,

BY JESSICA PORTER







and kept clearing. He later decreased his section to 6.2 miles, which he retired from maintaining in the spring of 2016.

Since 1955, Field committed himself to the A.T. He spent nearly 60 years with the MATC, serving as an officer, director, and holding many other roles. He's an Honorary Member of the ATC, served as chair of the ATC's Board of Directors and on the Executive Committee, and was inducted into the Appalachian Trail Hall of Fame in 2013. He's currently the MATC's overseer of lands. "I made a decision early on in my life that beyond my work and my family, the thing I would do to make a difference in the world is help the A.T.," Field says. With so much experience on the Trail, Field has seen volunteering from many perspectives, and through many changes.

This year Field will retire, marking the end of a Trail volunteer legacy. After spending countless hours along the A.T. improving conditions, leading Trail reroute projects, and serving in a number of different positions (including: overseer of the A.T. for Western Maine, president of MATC, and director of MATC) leaving the community will be no easy feat for Field, who still looks forward to getting out on the Trail each spring. "What I'll miss the most is being out in the woods, enjoying nature, and talking to the birds and the squirrels," he says.

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

The change with the greatest impact to the Trail and volunteer management is arguably the partnership with the federal government. In 1968, Congress enacted the National Trail System Act, which designated the A.T. as one of the first National Scenic Trails. It also named the National Park Service (NPS) as the administrator for the A.T. "It went from being all volunteer run, to being what Congress recognized as a great American service project," says Leanna Joyner, volunteer relations program director for the ATC.

In that legislation, Congress recognized the importance of volunteers in managing and maintaining the Trail, and wanted to ensure it continued to rely on volunteer efforts. This sentiment rings true to Field too. "You cannot rely on the government to take care of this Trail; you can't rely on agency funding, because it's just too uncertain," he says. "The surest guarantee to have it taken care of is by volunteers; without volunteers, the Trail would be seriously threatened."

The legislation establishing the A.T. as a National Scenic Trail opened access to the Land and Water Conservation Fund over the next four decades to protect much of the Appalachian Trail corridor lands, which are now more than 99 percent of the Trail, now publicly owned and permanently protected. While the A.T. is a unit of the national park system, it is unique in that it isn't all located on National Park Service land. It goes through national parks, national forests, wildlife areas, and state lands, covering nearly 70 different land management areas. "From a big picture, the A.T. probably looks like a puzzle. For each piece of that puzzle there are three essential elements: the land holder — often the NPS or U.S. Forest Service, the local club, and the ATC," says Joyner. "These three partners work together in what we call the Cooperative Management System to make decisions in the best interest to the Trail."

Joyner went on to explain that for any initiative, whether it is installing a new trailhead sign, relocating a portion of the Trail, or replacing a privy, there is a cooperative effort. Any of the entities may propose the change that leads to the group discussing the proposal to determine the course of action. Land management partners assure

necessary environmental or archeological compliance work is performed, and adjustments are made, if necessary. Together, these groups work to determine funding for the project, and clubs, most often, take on the task of organizing the work of volunteers.

Designation as a unit of the National Park System helped build the body of the Trail and certainly helps nourish it through sustained funding annually as a means to see major project improvements through to completion. In some ways, receiving federal funds every year to support project work changes the dynamic of volunteering. Before the federal government got involved, volunteers would go out and maintain their sections of Trail and report that work to their Trail club. That structure is largely the same, but there's much more focus on reporting now than ever before. This increased demand for advanced planning and lengthy follow-up reporting isn't as enjoyable for many seasoned Trail maintainers who prefer a Pulaski to a pen.

"There are many more requirements from federal agencies and the NPS, as far as reporting goes," Tipton says of the federal financial support. "It's important that collectively we are responsible to report how the money is spent. While there is more onus on our reporting, it helps amplify the impact of the dedication and output of our volunteer corps, so that each step, water bar, Trail structure, or other improvement is valued beyond the hour it spent to install it."

INCREASED TRAIL USE

Every year, the Trail sees increased use in all forms — day hikers, weekend hikers, and thru-hikers. Tipton reports current estimates of three million hikers on the Trail per year. In all of 1957, Field reported 18 people signed the logbook in the shelter along the stretch of Trail he maintained. In recent years, he says that number is not unusual per night at the same shelter during peak season. "The footpath has been beaten up badly. Now, the crews and money are necessary to support the work," Field says. Volunteers still remove blowdowns and do regular maintenance to the Trail. But the ATC and its clubs bring in Trail crews with a paid leader for the heavyduty work. Field continues, "it's hard to get volunteers to spend a week moving 500-pound rocks. We have volunteers to help, but that heavy rehabilitation is not something that Trail maintainers are expected to do on their stretch of Trail."

That level of challenge to Trail maintainers didn't exist 50 years ago, according to Tipton. Today, much more is understood about erosion and erosion control, which means there's more expertise needed to make sure the Trail is built and maintained sustainably. To build in the right location or harden it to withstand heavy use comes at a price.

VOLUNTEER CHARACTERISTICS

One aspect to volunteering that hasn't changed much over the years is the characteristics of the typical volunteer. "Traditionally, Trail maintenance, like hiking, has tended to draw a fiercely independent person," Joyner says. They are people with the interest and passion to work in their free time to make sure the A.T. is open and passable."

That characteristic almost fits Field to a tee. Though he enjoys doing Trail work in a group and has led a number of successful crew projects, he prefers to work alone. "I don't mind being out with other people, but it's logistically easier to go out on your own," he says.

"Also, I'm slowing down, and it's nice to go entirely at your own pace, without feeling like you have to keep up with someone or are slowing anyone down."

On the other hand, Joyner has noticed an increase in volunteers excited to work in a community. "We still have a lot of independent volunteers with passion and dedication, but we've seen a rise of volunteerism from people who want to work alongside friends and be in a community," she says. "Maybe that's a sign of the times; hiking isn't as solitary as it used to be, so I can see parallels. Reprieve in nature can be something that's shared or solitary in today's modern times."

FINDING SOLUTIONS TO AN AGE-OLD PROBLEM

Encouraging young people to become more involved has been a top priority during Field's entire tenure with the ATC. "At every meeting, every year, we wring our hands about the fact that everyone is old and grey-haired, and we try to figure out how to get young people into the ATC," Field says. "We will always worry about where the next generation will come from, but so far, they have always appeared."

Part of the issue, according to Tipton, is many young people can't afford to take time out of their schedules for unpaid volunteer opportunities. To help, the ATC provides volunteers on Trail crews with free lodging and meals to offset costs. "Our foundation is the vibrancy of our volunteer base," Joyner says. "It always has been, and that is why it's so pertinent to continue to keep active engagement."

This issue is one that is front and center for the ATC, especially as the Trail needs grow due to increased use. The ATC is in the middle of a five-year Strategic Plan, and one of the goals in that plan is to encourage to bring younger and more diverse populations to the A.T. The ATC is doing this by partnering with organizations that already have established and successful programs reaching those audiences. For example, it recently signed a cooperative agreement with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), which aims to recruit young people to get involved in outdoor experiences. SCA encourages them to enjoy the outdoors and gain experiences — like building and maintaining trails, conducting educational programs, talking to hikers, and operating equipment — that could lead to an outdoors-related career.

With approximately 2,190 miles of Trail to protect and manage, as well as three visitors centers, Trail club partnerships, and more than 40 official A.T. Communities, volunteer opportunities on the Appalachian Trail run the gamut, and there's an experience for people of all backgrounds and skill levels.

Ensuring all 2,000-plus-miles of the Trail are well maintained is an enormous job. "If we don't have a strong, sustainable relation-



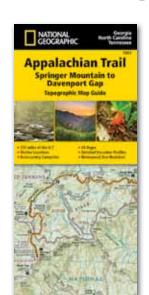
Jessica Porter is a freelance writer and editor who thru-hiked the A.T. in 2014. For more information, visit www.JessicaLynnePorter.com ship with the volunteer community, the whole plan of action is going to be very disrupted. It's a complicated thing, but, by and large, it works," Tipton says. "At the end of the day, the success is because of the volunteers who keep us moving forward."

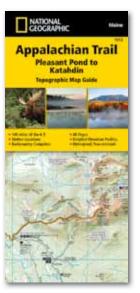


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* ATC DIRT *



WINNERS OF myATstory

TOUCHING STORIES OF COURAGE, INSPIRATION & COMMUNITY

There are some stories from the Appalachian Trail that garner nationwide attention. From athletic feats to overcoming adversity to long-separated friends reuniting on a mountain summit, these stories highlight some of the clearest examples of what the A.T. can provide. While these stories are inarguably exciting and inspiring to fans of the Trail, they are also few in number. Three million people hike the Trail every year and even more are influenced by or interact with the A.T. in some fashion, which means there are so many stories that have yet to be heard. ¶ This was the idea behind the myATstory Contest. We wanted to give a platform for A.T. lovers to share inspiring stories directly from the Trail community. The limitations were simple: big or small, day hike or thru-hike (or even no hike), the stories had to show how the A.T. inspired their lives. From the videos, songs, photographs, podcasts, drawings, and written tales we received, we chose five of our favorites for each round of the contest — not the easiest task, as we received well over 100 high-

quality entries. We then asked the A.T. community to vote for their favorite story each round. In February, these selected stories — our four finalists — were placed in a final round of voting, where the community could pick their favorite. ¶ After thousands of votes and an extremely tight race, the decision was made: "When Sunday Smiled," by Andrew Davidson was chosen as the Grand Prize winner. "When Sunday Smiled" chronicles Andrew's journey on the A.T. in the wake of a tragedy. Initially, Andrew saw thru-hiking the Trail as a way to fill the void left in his life by the death of his son. Instead, he discovered a path toward hope and the reaffirmation of his faith. Our sincere thanks go out to everyone who shared their stories with us over the past six months, either by submitting a story to the contest or by tagging their social media posts with #myATstory (which we still encourage everyone to do). These tales highlight the community that makes hiking the A.T. one of the most inspiring and unique experiences in the world.

Andrew's story will be featured in the Summer issue of *A.T. Journeys*. To read his and other contest finalist's stories now visit: appalachiantrail.org/myATstory/contest

LYME AND OTHER TICK-BORNE DISEASES



Ticks, which carry Lyme disease and other serious illnesses, are a risk on any hike. Lyme disease is expanding along the Trail, with most cases reported from Virginia through Vermont, though Lyme can be contracted in any Trail State. Lyme disease is the most common, but there are several tick-borne illnesses present on the A.T. The characteristic "bulls-eye" rash

sometimes occurs with Lyme disease, but not always. Symptoms that may indicate Lyme or other tick-borne illnesses and a need for medical attention include fever, chills, headache, and muscle aches. Most humans are infected by nymphs, which are about the size of a poppy seed and difficult to see. They are most active from May to July, but can be found year round. Check yourself for ticks frequently. Your chances of being bitten by a tick can be decreased by taking these precautions:

Prevention:

- Treat clothing with permethrin (kills ticks on contact) / wear light-colored clothing
- Use insect repellent that contains 20 to 30 percent DEET on exposed skin
- Perform daily or more frequent tick checks; the sooner you remove an embedded tick the less chance there is of infection

Removing embedded ticks:

- Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp tick as close to skin as possible — pull away in an upward motion
- Disinfect site with soap and water, rubbing alcohol, or hydrogen peroxide



For more information about tick-borne illnesses and symptoms visit:

cdc.gov/ticks/diseases appalachiantrail.org/health

NPS 100th a Success

YEARS

By Jesse Olbrich and Matt Graves

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service (NPS), known by many around the world as "America's Best Idea." In honor of our 100th birthday, the staff at the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (APPA) endeavored to develop new, innovative, and exciting programming and experiences for visitors to lead us into the next century of preservation and protection. ¶ It all began with the introduction of the "Hike100 Challenge" developed and launched by our Student Conservation Association interns. Appalachian Trail's Hike100 Challenge was designed to encourage new and current hikers of all abilities to get out and hike on our public lands including the A.T. Any person who hiked a total of 100 miles in 2016, with at least one hike taking place on the Trail, received a decal. Nearly 250 hikers participated and more than 1,000 others have completed the challenge. ¶ In order to reach the widest possible audience and contact the most visitors, last year the A.T. welcomed our first two seasonal Interpretive Park Rangers ever; Hope Midock and Amanda Lane. After receiving training in interpretive skills, safety, resource information, and A.T. cooperative management, we developed a schedule for interpretive walks, talks, and "roving" (informal visitor contacts along the Trail), plus weekend afternoon staffing of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) Visitor Center in Harpers Ferry. All of these public programs proved to be a huge success, with informal visitor contacts on the Trail in Lower Town Harpers Ferry proving to be an incredible way to engage visitors in conversations about the Trail, its meanings, and significance.

OUR FIRST TWO SEASONAL INTERPRETIVE PARK RANGERS REACHED MORE THAN 8,000 VISITORS BY:

- Leading 15 Guided Hikes with a total of 153 participants
- Delivering 16 Formal Interpretive Talks with 164 participants
- Making at least 7,030 Informal Visitor Contacts while roving on the A.T.
- Interacting with 722 visitors while helping to staff the ATC Visitor Center

Amanda and Hope also helped spread the word about the NPS "Find Your Park" campaign, by putting together an event to celebrate Family Hiking Day and National Public Lands day to encourage families to enjoy nature and hiking together. ¶ With the support of ATC, NPS staff coordinated the planning and delivery of a Place-based Service Learning Workshop;

a three graduate credit teacher professional development workshop in Harpers Ferry in August. The two-day workshop for 4th to 8th grade teachers from Jefferson County, West Virginia and Loudoun County, Virginia was jammed with subject matter content on our local area, hands-on demonstration of place-based learning in the field, and an introduction to lesson development incorporating authentic places and service learning. Twenty-five teachers participated with 21 others pursuing the additional work required to receive graduate credit from Shepherd University. Feedback and evaluations were outstanding with numerous teachers reporting immediate use of the content in their classrooms. In addition, the APPA also provided a half-day introduction to the Trail as a place-based outdoor learning classroom for 31 middle and high school social studies teachers from Jefferson County. This mini-workshop was done in partnership with Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park. ¶ APPA staff also planned and delivered a seven-day experiential learning experience for 11 National Collegiate Honors students from universities around the country known as Partners in the Parks. While these programs have been taking place in national parks around the country since 2008, this is the first time one has been held on the Appalachian Trail. APPA staff worked with faculty at Virginia Tech to coordinate the week's activities. Aligning with the Department of the Interior's "Play, Learn, Serve, and Work" initiative, the students' time in Harpers Ferry included three days of backpacking on the A.T., a service learning project, instructional presentations and discussion revolving around the Cooperative Management System, eco-tourism, visitor use management, and outdoor ethics. Staff from Harpers Ferry and C&O Canal National Historical Parks, ATC, APPA, and Dr. Jeff Marion of Virginia Tech instructed sessions and lead discussions. ¶ The NPS looks forward to the next 100 years of stewardship and engagement!

For more information on how to find your park visit: www.FindYourPark.com



The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) is happy to announce the launch of A.T.CAMP, a website that allows groups of sixto-ten hikers to find and register for campsites along the Trail. This system is designed to help groups plan their hikes while avoiding overcrowding and related natural and social impacts at camping areas.

"The scenic beauty and wildland location of the Appalachian Trail makes it a popular destination for groups seeking recreation and a memorable time with their friends," says Jason Zink, visitor use manager for the ATC. "But a single group can overcrowd the capacity of many trailside campsites, which not only negates much of the wilderness experience so many hikers seek, but also causes damage to the fragile natural resources of the Appalachian Mountains."

The A.T.CAMP website, ATcamp.org, allows hikers to register a group of up to ten individuals, choose starting and ending locations for their intended hike, and select campsites along their chosen route. Groups will be able to see how many other campers have also registered for these locations and will receive an immediate notification if their group exceeds the quota for campsites they have selected.

"This system is not meant to reserve a spot for a group and does not impose restrictions for campers seeking to stay at the same location," says Zink. "It's a voluntary system that provides a tool for groups to plan their hikes, to minimize or eliminate damage, and to maximize their enjoyment of the unique A.T. experience."

While the current iteration of A.T.CAMP focuses solely on large camping groups, future versions will allow smaller groups and individual campers to register their A.T. camping itineraries. Presently, A.T. long-distance hikers can register their thru-hikes using the Voluntary Thru-Hiker Registration at: appalachiantrail.org/thruhikeregistration.

For more information or to register an overnight group hike visit: ATcamp.org



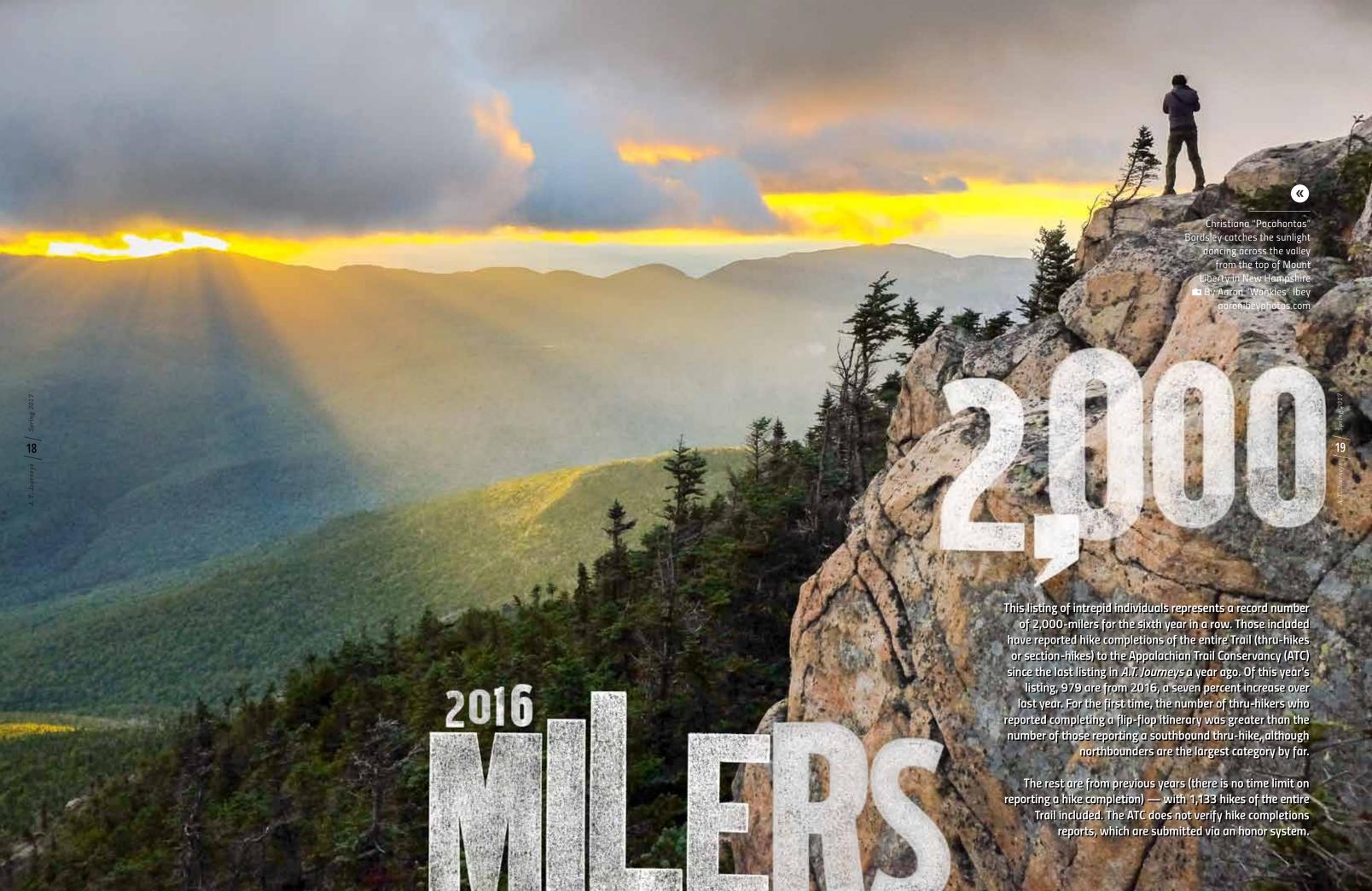
A.T., Pennsylvania

By Justin Richardson

CANDIDATES FOR 2017-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

17

The slate of nominees for the next term of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) Board of Directors beginning in August 2017 includes two new board members as well as 13 returning members. All positions will be voted upon during the ATC business meeting at the Biennial Membership meeting in Waterville, Maine. ¶ A nominating committee chaired by member Bob Almand is proposing the following individuals for ATC officer positions: chair, Sandra Marra of Alexandria, Virginia; vice-chair, Greg Winchester of Milton, Georgia; Secretary, Elizabeth P. Thompson of Ridgefield, Connecticut; and Treasurer, Mary Higley of Naples, Florida. Nominated for their first terms on the board are: Colin Beasley of New London, New Hampshire; Shalin Desai of Hudson, Massachusetts. ¶ Nominated for reelection as directors are: Norman Findley of Atlanta, Georgia; Ruben Rosales of Cambridge, Massachusetts; Colleen Peterson of Frostburg, Maryland; Jennifer Pharr Davis of Asheville, North Carolina; Daniel Howe of Raleigh, North Carolina; Beth Critton, of West Hartford, Connecticut; Edward Guyot of Keene, New Hampshire; Rob Hutchinson of Atlanta, Georgia; and Nathaniel Stoddard of Eagle, Colorado. ¶ Leaving the Board at the end of this term are: Arthur Foley (Treasurer) of Colorado Springs, Colorado and John Noll of Fredericksburg, Virginia. ¶ In order to implement bylaw changes approved by the board in May 2017 board members will be elected to staggered terms of one, two, or three years. Going forward board members will be elected to three-year terms. ¶ Alternate candidates for officer and director positions can be nominated through petitions signed by at least 50 ATC members and sent before July 3, 2017 to president and CEO Ron Tipton at ATC headquarters in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Votes by members must be cast in person at the Winchester Biennial Membership meeting in August. A





CAROLYN "HUMMINGBIRD" DOBSON

2016 Ackart Phil / Lightning Acker Dave | Chief Acker Haley E. / Cabot Adam-Labreche Renaud / Blueberry Crisp Adams Donna Midge / Kentucky Aguilar Michelle C. / Chili Pepper Akridge Scott / MacGyver99 Albekord Arash / Melted Soul (le) Aldinger Jarrod S. / North Stars Alexander Tom / Raisin Bran Kid Allen Summer Sage / Peaches Allwein Mike / Magoo Anderson Fred / Retainer Anderson Gene / PaPa Bear Anderson Gerald / Rosy Eagle Anderson Philip / Philco Anderson Rory | Bigfoot Arentzen Clare / Patches Arikawa Masahiro / Masa Arnold Chris / John Goodman Attaway Lee | General Lee Aviles Jose Luis / Good Talk Babb William / Leapfrog Bacino Craig / Little Kiss Baettig Thomas / Mr. Coffee Bafford, Jr. John / Longstride Bailey Dave | Morel Bailey Leisel / Back Seat Driver Baker Heather | Squeaknee Ballard David / Kickit Balomenos Costas / L.L. Retro

Barber Nastassia / Mishap

Barker Elisabeth

Barker Clayton / Cockblockmoses

Bardsley Christiana / Pocahontas (Party Foul)

Barkin Claire | Berenstain Bear Barkin Rob / Berenstain Bear Barstow Erik / Guardian of the Vortex Batchelder Brian / Mama Duck Batson Andrew | Slinger Bayly Charles | Farmer Bear Leah / Ninia Beck Sascha Michael / RaSa Bedore Daniel / Fashionplate Dan Beeler Sarah / Rigby Beenenga Henry / Kid Beeson James / Hooshr Bell Jeff / Brightside Bellew / Halfway Bellott Philip Spencer / Sixlegs Bement Andrew Lee | Good Man Gramps Benavides Travis / Frickles Benda Jay / Cucumber Benda Sydney / Hummingbird Bender Grace / Earthling Bennett, Jr. Daniel / El Gato Berger James / Skydog Berger Joshua / Arrowhead Berger Michael / Grandma Berntheizel Emma / Doc Berry Christopher / Slim Bichard Philip / Sparky Bickford Jonathan / Odysseus Biskobing Charles / Chuckles Blevins Dustin / Big Bad Wolf Bloemendaal Timothy / Candlemaker Bloomenthal Mark / Cricket Blount David / Ribbit Boaz Clint / William Clark Boerner Billy / Simple Man Bohrer Bryant / Tetris Boland Adam / TARP

Borgais Kelly / Paisley Borgemeister Brent / Wander **Borrell Kathy** Bosarge Matthew / Five Star Bosch Henry / Rhododendron Bowser Matthew | Boyardee Rover Rill / Wild Bill Bovle Robert / Tuna Roll Brady Debbie | Pole Dancer Braun Wolfgang / Rabbit Brewer Alan / AB Brian Cole / Mowoli Briggs Rem / Whitecap Briggs Taylor / Braids Brisson Chelsea / Pending Brittingham Matt / Twinkle Toes Broderson Carol / Lark Brown Angela / Teach Brown Isaac / Pharmacist Brown Rvan / Kodak Brown Sean / Wurm Bruce Jonathan / Jonny B. Bucholz Brandon / Pizza Buford Mary Jo / Tuck Everlasting Bunn Jon D. / Rain and Sprinkle Burnett Scott / Scott Butler Nicholas / Breaking Badger Bybee Molly / Training Wheels Byelick Nathan / Nate Byers Natalee | Insect Bvrd Jill / Iwox Cain James / Lazy Eagle Calace Alicia / Shades Caldwell Elisha / Spud

Boone Taylor / Flower Power



Cantafio Jill I Jill daheast

Cantarella-Fox Ingrid / BiBi

Carberry Andrew / Lollygag

Carberry Claudia / Little Rhino

Carmody Christopher | Endless

Casson Jonathan / Catfish Jon

Champagne François / Frostv

Chapman Christopher | Beaver

Chludzinski Scott / CHUD

Chollet Myriam / Swiss Miss

Chritton William / November

Clancy Deb / Night Reader

Clare Mamie / Xtra-Tuff

Clark Jackson / Nutella

Clark Thomas / Recalc

Clawson Grady

Clark Lindsay / Little Bear

Claxton Steve | Mustard Seed

Clonch David Matthew | Stone

Close James | No Trace

Coates Craig / England

Cockrell Melton / Grits

Coates Eliane / Tumblina

Colpitts Kenneth / Clovis

Cleland Robert / New Hampshire Bob

Collar Diane Rae Barto / Trail Talker

Christmann Emil / Bear Chaser

Chapman Benjamin / It's Always Sunny

Chandler Jenna / Creature

Chapa Oscar / El Tejano

Capalbo Jesse / Panda

Carpino James / Bilbo

Casola Julian I Swede

Cawein Noah / Chef

Cantrell Luke

RICHARD "ALPENGLOW" SNEDDON

Conway Dave / UP Copland Christine / Dusty Copland David / Cowpie Cordoza Jacob / Tarzan Corsentino Vincent / One Shot Corv Samuel / Rammy Cote Matthew | Zappy Tendrils Couric Elrose / Trekking Twins Covino Andrew / Broken Arrow Cowles Evan / Riptide Craig David Alan / Ninia Roll Cramer Katie / Purple Haze Cribley Erik / Charcoal Crocker Shelby / Grits Crowley Tom / Cracker Jack Croy Elektra / Rock City Crum Arthur / The Nomadic Fish Crum Matthew | Dead Set Crytzer Daniel / Brightside Culbertson Tim / Sin Nombre Culwell Ben / Tortilla Cunningham Brian / $Me\ Da$ Cunningham Wavne | 5 O'Clock Curfman Aileen / Grandma Curfman David / Grampa Curtis Clay / Mallet Cutright Cody / Crocfire Dahl Kyle / Not So Bad Dahler Andrew / No Way Dalton John / P.J. Darby Bruce Davidson Charles / Chase Davies Harrison / Cowboy Davis Collin / Tesla Davis Judy / Lucky dog Davis Robert / Felix J. McGillicuddy de la Vega Henri / Rooster Deitz Jennifer / Wildflower DeJohn Olivia / Gigglefritz **DeLong Gregory** / Just Greg Denny Gary Dent Robert / Honest Abe D'Epagnier William / High Life

Diamond Elliott / Flicker Diaz Kennedy / Robin Hood DiCarlo Tim / Three-Jack Dickerson Mark / OFFCENTER Didusch Nicole / Lupine Dieckhoff Gunnar / Rustv Diercks Joel $I\!\!/AJ$ Dill D. lan / Ain't Nothin Wrong With That! Dillon Barbara / Thistle Dillon Kristin / Moxie Dippold Kristen / Arrow Dise Dillon T. / One-A-Day Disser Steven | Bud Doak Caitlin / Philosopher Dobson Carolyn / Hummingbird Dodson Cliff / Tabasco Doggett Ken / Seadog Doninger Griffin / Little Giant Doran Ben I there "Done That" Downing Deb / Rangeley Dovle Larry / 4Be Duddles Martha / Big Red Duffard Diane / Firefly Duong Khanh / Chickenfeet Durham Kenneth / Coach Durkel Heather | Firefly Eastham Isabelle | Rucker

Detzner Bill / Marshmellow

Eastman William / Babbitt Ecay Sara | Weird Horse Edwards David | Sweeper Edwards Kelly / Caboose Eaolf Joe / Limbo Egolf Mischa / Tripwire Eliades John / Indiana Hick Eliades Steven / Monkeyman Elliott Jayson / Whiplash Ellis Geoffrey | Downunder Ellison Carolyn / Merlot

Farthing Lauren / Big Bird Fay Jared / Flannel Feeney Andrew / Caddyshack Felton Derek / Still Thinkin Felton Harry / Fuzzy Logic Fenney Robert / White Owl Ferguson Kiki / DuckBat Figueiredo Joaduim / Portuguese Fillingim Jeremy / Night Watch Finneran Paul / Naruto Finneran Rick / The Whaling City Cyborg



ALEX "SILVER FOX" GIASSON AND CASEY "BEAR BELL" LAUSH



FLORIANE "SMEAGOL" HERBILLON

Ellison Llyn / Lost & Found Ellwood Jesse / Mv Trail Name's Jesse Emmerson Bert / WILDCAT English Jane Clare | Sweets Erway Nick / Nukon Esbenshade Rachel / Goldilocks Eshleman George | Keeper Evans Alex / Little Red Evans Clay Bonnyman / Pony Evans Joe | Jeremiah Evans Sally / Nut Fadden Joseph / SuperTramp Fairey Robin / Riser Fairley Hayden / Salami Falduto Michael / Mountain Goat Farnum Cole | New Year Farrell Peter / Turtur

Fiola Mathew / Coach Fischer Edward / HI RO Fisher Joshua / FISH Flaherty Charles Fleenor Matthew | Humble Pi Fleet Jensen / Renaissance Fogt Neil / Stripe Fogwell Thomas / Bullet Folkerts Eric / Little Foot Forsthoefel Carl / Foxy Forsythe Keith / Old Timer Fortier Young Nichole / Karma Fortney Marcus / Buff Fortney Nathan / Tandy Fowler Troy / Bolt Fox Kimberly / Tiptoe Franklin Jon / Professor

Gaeddert John / Loon Galbraith Brenton / Zuko Gallagher Jake / Funk Train Galuppo Mike / Ponyboy Galway Colin / Garber Christopher / Golden Garner Cody / Lucky Duck Garrahan Katy / Troothpick Garriott Travis / Fugitive Gaskin William / Granite State Gautreau Angela / Echo Gelfeld Michael / Einstein Georgakakos Christine / Crispy Germundson Bryson / Oriole Gerstmeyer Sebastian / Pepper Gescher Karsten / Refill Gevster John / Old Job Giasson Alex / Silver Fox Gibson Kate / Breezy Gibson William / No Name Gitlin Shaun / Brooklyn Gladfelter Joshua I Side Wind Glasson Joshua / Durham Glover Anthony | Bullseve Godfrey Cori / Stardust Gonzalez Mark / Padawan Goodwin Alan / The Kid Gordon Tom / Mismatch Gottshall Dan / Fat Hen Gourdin Matthew / Cheap & Easy Graham Ted / LUCKY DOG Grandy Trevor / Clementine Grant Matthew | White Walker Gravatt Glenn / Scenario (Worst Case) Green Marisa Jane / Snow White Greger Christoph / Toxic Foot Greig John / Rambler Gresham Joseph / Hooch Gribble Joshua / Kid Grier Jeremy / Hawkeye Griffith Cara / Mamho Grills Aaron / Yukon Grimes Davis / Highlander Grocic Aleks / Tinman Groff Caleb / Pack Mule Grooms Eryn / Blossom Grosch Peregrine / Scorched Heels Groth-Accetta Adrian / Tango Grunzel Mitch / HappyFeet **Gryqier Jenna** / Slingshot/Swingshot Grzanka Andrew / Baby Bear Guenther David | Just Dave Guérard Renoit I Snakehite Guilfovle Johanna / Nor'easter Gummeson Josiah / The Gatherer Gurnett Janet / Outlaw Guse Holger / Uncle Bob

Gutwin Hailey / Chex

Hackman Audrey | Bones

Hàfeli Stefanie / Sunray

Hafner David / Thorny

Haile Rahawa / Tsehay

Hall Ron / I-Man

Haddock Leslie / Monarch

Hafley Lauren / Woodchuck

21

Freeman Hannah / Topsy-Turvy

French Alexandra / Librarian

Fuchs Jeffrey | Hermano

Furlow Chris / Disco

Gaddes Beniamin / Peril

Freyer Jonathan / WHISKERS







LONDA "VIRGINIA CREEPER" MATTHEWS AND KATE "KIWI" MATTHEWS

Hammond Paul / Sauerkraut Hancock Kathy / Kat Handley Casey | Casey Jonez Hankey Donald | Heeler Hannan Timothy | Sidewinder Hansen Isaiah / Cold Taters Haque Aaron / Hawaii Hardisky William / Crusher Harmon Greq | Storm Trooper Harmon Melanie / Gamel Harmon Roger Harper Emily / Chef Tumbleweed O.G. Harris Laurel / Wet Tent Harris Zachary / Otip

Harrison John / The Scavenger

Harsha Melanie / Peanut

Hammond Megan McGowan / Sourstraws

Hartwell Sean / Liquor Harvey Allegra / Legs Harvey Elliot / Bombadil Harvey John / Foggy Hatcher Fredric / MT. Dew Haugh John / Keystone Rambler Hayden Scotty / Scooter Hayward Andy Heady-Smith Jamin / Moose Dancer Healy Janel / Ninja Hoops Heller Michael / White Cap Helmkamp Justin / 2Taps Helsel Dave | Hansel Heneage Amanda / Firefeet Hensley Andrew / +++Stitches+++ Herbert Scott / Behind Me Herbillon Floriane | Smeagol

Hess James / Crash Pad Hess Nadine / 2Pak Hicho Amido / The Spaniard Higginbotham Keith / Huckleberry Hildebrand Travis / BevoHi Hoff Lisa / Dragonfly Hoffman Eric / Cap'n Red Hoffman John / Long John Hoffman Samuel / Blaze of Glory II Holland Mike / Sasquatch Hollinger Sue / Trekking Twins Holzhauer Emily / Toast Horth Joshua / COMMANDO Horvath Jim / Puck Howie David / Slug Huesken Katrin / Finch Hughes Jessie / Thin Mint Hum Walker / Diatom

Hunt Gary | Prophet

Hunter Shay | Sassy

Hyde Jon / Jelly Dog

Huntsberry Andrew / Sixty Also

Hutchison Eric / Hatmandu

Ibey Aaron / Wankles Inman Randal Irland Megan / Lady MacGyver Ishihara Mari / Cruise Missile Isoldi Ethan / Hatchet Jackson Kendra / Lay's Jacob Brandon / The Dude Jacques Cliffton / Captain America James Betty / Foxfire Janvrin Jay / wook Jarrett Matthew / Outback Jenkins Austin / Cricket Jenko James / Just Jim Jennings Nathan / Wet Beard Jepson Paul Jewett Justin / Turbo Jezi Sean / Two Socks Jofery Victoria / Bluegrass Johnson Calum / Orion Johnson Laurie / Bean Johnson Lori / Morning Lori Johnson Regina / Little One Johnson Ryan / RyNO

JESSICA "EIGHTEEN HUNDRED" RODRIGUEZ

Kipps Stella / Shooting Star Klett John / Burn Saw Klister Zach / Sniper Klocek Thomas / Rainbow Knepper Jon / BAD APPLE Knight Larry | McGyver Knox Bill / ^^ountain ^^an Kochenrath Renate / Nature Koehneke Nathaniel / Spaghetti Legs Kohn Daniel / High Tech 96 Kolkebeck Bruce | Budget Koller Bob / Baltimore Bob Kominek Byron / Pantry Koren Jillian / Pish Kornegay Marci / BlondeBear Kovanis Andrew /AKKozel Stacey / Ironwill Kranitzky Kathryn / Sodapop Krapf Steven / Bloodman Krause Jr. Darrell / Other Brother Kravette Josh / Pokev Krebs Brondum M. / Trout Kristoferitsch Robert / Banana Pants Krom David / GAME Time Krull Lane / Bear Bait Kucewicz Jr. Leo G. / Reading Man Kulp Jason / Fiber Kurtz Meredith / Fortune Cookie Lacey-Plumley Amy / Gingersnap Laczo Mike / just mike LaDouceur Andrew / Greyhound Lafortune Marc / Zorco Laird James / Fosters Lamb Darby | Firefly Lambert Mark / Diesel Lambert Sheryl / Cold Snap Lannoye Gregory / Dr. G LaPierre Larry / Subman Larkin Pat / Croc N' Roll LaRochelle-Eid Chafic / Lumberjack Larson Katie | Sour Patch Laush Casey | Bear Bell Lawton David / Ghost Walker Leahy Rachael / Outlaw

Johnson Steven | Sir Fob W. Pot

Johnston Laura / Hev Girl

Jones Sarah / Sweet Potato

Jorgensen Aundrea / Shotgun Jutras Harrison / Moon Boots

Kaminski Walt / Wilson Wilson

Kamman Alan / NORTHSTAR

Kastein Hannah / Hannah Solo

Kanwisher Catherine / Pluto

Kapperman Keith / Husker

Karim Andrew / Lt. Dan

Kaufhold Marty / Crash

Keane Robert / Lancelot

Keaton William / Nickel

Keegan Ria / Cheetah

Key Greq / The Traveler Killigrew Megan / Orbit

Killigrew Patricia / M♥m

King Kristopher / ROUND 2

Mikeki M / Palindrome

Kerr Ryan / Tank

Kennedy Dale / StoneKicker Kennedy Scott / Not Chris

Blizzard

Jones Nick / Shaggy

Jordan Michael / Pikev

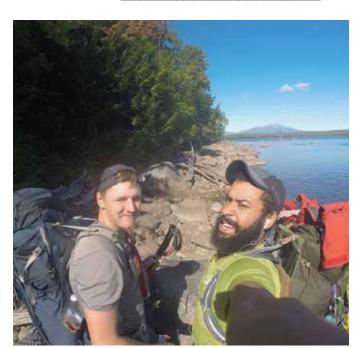
Kaelin Samuel / Cheddar



FRANCOISE "PIE" WISZNIA



JOHN "NAVIGATOR" LEE



TYLER "BRIEF THIEF" HALL AND KIKI "DUCKBAT" FERGUSON

Leone Marino / Sir Brother Raccoon Lepp Alie / Double Dip Lesmerises William / Crash Lester Jonathan / Pooch Levine Andrew / Bolt Lewis David / Detour Lewis Samuel / Yosamite Lightfoot Dan / Orange Crush Lightfoot Heather / Lightfoot Liljedahl Kelsey / Raindrop Lindgren Zachary | Steady Lindig Mike / Lewis Lark Lombardo Michael / BUCKEYE Longfield Charlotte / Glow Lopez Andrew / Polar Bear Loso Geoffrey / Unknown Louden JuliAnne / ChickenFoot Low Isabel / Quixote Lubitz Michael / Veggieguy Luchenburg Matthew / Ramblr Luscz Emily / Llama Lusk John / Star Brother Luttrell Daniel / Lazarus Lutz Eric / Applejack Lynch Kristin / Little Bamboo Lynch Thor / Thor Lyons Steven / Chaser MacCartney Jason I quicks and MacPherson Craig / Spielberg Magaña Eva / Food Bag Magee Zachary / Fireball Maher Alex / The Artist Formerly Known as Captain Planet Maher Lisa / Dill Mahoney Colin Maiullo Jonathan / Mossman Malmstrom Sarah / Taskmaster Maloy Molly / Fireball Marden Sean / Marathon Marino Christopher / Chrysalis Marino Meri / Upside-Down Monkey Markworth Noah / Popeye Marshall Brook / Slim Rims Marshall Tristan / Bearsong Martin Dale / Ummgahwah Mashal James / Secret Agent Masini Michael / Pacer Masopust Stephen / Yardsale Masui Takanori / Tater Matchison Brent Matthews Kate / Kiwi Matthews Londa / Virginia Creeper May Debra / Annie May Ralph / Teddy Mayr Kelsi / Bear Bait Mays Angela / Suds McCourt II Kevin / Exo McFall Keenan / Conundrum McFall Rebecca / Aurora McGrath III Edwin / SPARK

McKeeman Leland / Yeti

McKenna Corey / Twinkle Toes

Leary Lemontrel / Tough Love

Legerton Timothy / SPORKY

Leiprecht Stefan / Napster

Lenington Mitch / DUTCH

León Brandon / High 5

Leary Patrick / Tinder

Lee John / Navigator Lee Victor / Bill Nye

Lemire Moe | Storm





LYNN SALAMONE, INGRID "BIBI" CANTARELLA-FOX, AND KATHY BORRELL

McKenney John / MADHATTER McKinley Samuel / Mr. Clean McNeely Kyle / Deep Thought McNeill Taylor / Blastoise / Wartortle McPartland Kari / Jill Meier Mitch / Google Meliet Holly I the Bean Melini Julie Melini Louis Mell Dennis / Blessed Woverine Mellinger Brittany / Babushka Meneely Tyler / Jack Metz Elaine | Speed Pig Meyer Robert / Spidey Mickelson Jan / Hazelnut Mifsud Joseph / Plenny Mikesell Paul / Tangerine Miles Paul / Backscratcher Miles Piyatida / Can-Do! Miller Stephanie / Blade Milligan Charles / Bald Mitchell Ben / Goose Mobley Katlyn / Snickers Moltenbrey Daniel / Grizzly Adams Molzahn Alexander / Pup Monroe Christian / Turkey Bait Moody Alan / NASCAR Moreau Etienne / Space Sex Morris Jeremy / White Gurl Morris Rachel Anne / Cairn Mortensen Tor / Speed Limit

Moulds Frank / The Tank

Murphy Heather / Butter

Mundy James / Rock-Steady

Murphy James / Machine/Murph

 ${\bf Murtha~Matthew}\,{\it I~Pedro~Dynamite}$

Musselman Patrick / Dreamer

Myers James / Gourmet

Move Jake / Wahoo

Murdoch Bill

Murray Alastair /

Myerson Dean / Bug Juice Nast Coral / Crumbcakes Navarro Chelsea / Uno Nelson Claire | Bangles Never Joe / Mowgli Niblett Joey Niekamp Andy / Captain Blue Nierenberg Stephanie / Chasing Freedom Noel Joseph / Splendid Monkey King Norris John / Rambo Norster Kayla / Musicbox Norster Sean / Snorlax Nugent John / John Oakes Caleb O'Brien Matthew | Rocket Ockham Stephen / Spicy O'Halloran Pari / Brave Turtle Oliver Erin / Olive Oil Onufrak Matt / "Just Matt" Osburn Ernie / Blunder Owens Dale | Joy Ride Pangborn Jonathan / Ghost Pangborn Tyler / Holy Diver Papa Michael / Bombay Paradis Dan / Terodactyle Paris Catherine | B Rock Parrish Timothy / One Feather Patel Rahil / Iceberg Pauli Harrison / Chicken Fried Pelletier Christian / Patriot Pellissier Edward / The Count Pelz Leah / Hiccup

Pendergrass Kendall B. / Chipotle

Pettrey Tom / Grandaddy Long Legs

Pendleton Dan / Legs

Perry Steve | Walden

Pham Dee | Scooter

Pesce Jordon

Peterson Tom

Penny Carson / Yard Sale

Perkins Tyson / Tenderfoot

Phan Toi / Thunder Snarf Reed Marshall Phillips Erica Lise | Humdinger Reeder Tom / Wanna' Chair Phillips Scott / IPA Reef Yaakov | Trek Pickett Rachel / Foxtrot Reichert Kim / Kimosabe Pike Will / Shaggy Reimer Peter Meyer / Hobbes Pilarczyk Stephanie / Not a Bear Rekasie Cory | BigFace Pilkinton Lisa / Cheeks Repolona Krystian / SNAP Pilon Fred / Frantic Oreo Reynolds Joe / Guru Pinkerton Shelby / Vino Reynolds Markus / SherpaCrow Piscadlo Kimberly / McGoober **Rhodes Dusty** Pline Patrick / Gimme Shelter Richardson Heather / Splinter Pline Susie | Sunflower Richardson Justin / Deadwood Poisson Doug / Darkwater Richter Dan / The Brother Poles Matthew / 4.0 Rickels Ellyn / Game Warden Post Tim / Georgia or Bust Daniel $I \cap X$ Potvin Robert / Westy Ridge JC / Conductor Powell Steven / SEGA Ridgers Emily / Giggles Powers Mary / Yellow Ringas Aris / Bougie Prater Jacob / Red Beard Ringer Alexa / Spoony **Pritchard Bill** / Professor Ghostbuster Ripka Deb / Queen Bee Pritchard Emily / Cinderella Ripka Mark / Oscar Probe Victoria / Giggles Ritchison Sam / Chef Proescholdt Toni / Sphagnum P.I. Ritz Steve / Slip



STEVEN "BUD" DISSER AND SHELBY "GRITS" CROCKER

Protulipac Natalie / Lookout Prows II Keith / Hipbelt Przybylek Christian / Spudnik Pugliese Benjamin / McLovin Puissegur Jeremy / Zataran Putzbach Christina / Pyles Jessie / Fence Pyles Joshua / Un Careful Queen Julie / Ranger Quehl Philipp | Monster Quiggins Rachel / Blueberry Yum Yum Quinn Daniel / Slow Jam Quinones-Williams Skv / Rabbitt Avery | Dirtface Raimondi Eva | Statler Rakestraw Jessica / Snuggles Rakestraw Nic / Darwin Rand Kevin / Junco Rauh Trey / Veto Raywood Geoffrey / Rightlane Redman Karla / Dulci Reed Brian | Patches

Roane Stephanie / ShadowFox Robbins Matthew / Salty Robertie James / Signpost Robidoux Serie / Wallaby Robinson Toby / Goldie Lox Robinson-Welsh Alicia / Roadrunner Rodegast Peter / Still Peter Rodriguez Jessica / Eighteen Hundred Rohrig Dennis / Southpaw Rosenthal Sharon / "46er2" Rosenthal Sharon / Waffles Rosenzweig Maya / Focus Ross Dexter / Footlocker Ross-Parent Jackson / Jax Roth Christian / CrissCross Roush Daniel / Dodger Rowe Kurt / The Natural Rowe Matthew | Packrat Rowell David / Carpenter Rumblejunk Cornelius / Rumohr Michael Uwe / Dirty Rust Dottie / .com



PIYATIDA "CAN-DO!" MILES

Rutter Adam / The Three Somethings Rutter Carlotta / The Three Somethings Rutter Kirk / The Three Somethings Ryan Adam / GRIZ Ryan Mary / Twix Rvan Mike / Miker Sabel Johnny I Johnny Rocket Sailor Dana / Sacagawea Saint-Amand Nathan / Mosey Salter Michael / Limey Salvatore Lawrence | After Sanders Jav Sanders Katie Sasser Paula / Hestia Savaria Becky / Talon Scarlato Stephen / Steech Schatsky Ronen / Mogely Schellhase Ashley / Pringles Schep Patrick / Sushi Schiegg Thomas / Rattlebee Schiemann Mark / Buffalo Schmidlapp Christina / Box Turtle Schmitt Emily / SPAM Schmitt Scott / Ouasibird Schmitthenner Hillary / Robi Dobi Schneider Paul / WorksHard Schoeppner Daniel / Ziploc Schoninger Geoffrey / Messiah Schweizer Marc / fisherman Scott Myles / Helter Scro Don / Nailgun Sebastian Janet / Olive Oyl Sebastian William / Popeye

Segerstrom Sr. Harry / Afterburner Semenova Yuliya / Kremlin Sergent Alex / White Noise Sergent Shauna / Mola Sersig Beth / Beth Sersia Nan Seuk Joe / Crusty Tishooz Seus Laurel / Duchess of Slug Seymour Abby / Sunshine Shannon-Beava Linda / Willow Sharkey Rob / Sharkey Sheets Jonny I Jonny B. Good Sherman Matt Shields Jared | Big Fudge Shields Tracy / Luigi Shifflett Justin | Spider Shimer Charles | Bald Whistler Shores Kyle Shue Ta-Lee | Shoe! Shurtz Ronald / Gray Ghost Siler Scott / otter Simpson Mark / Blue Sky Sims Patrick | Beef Jerkey Singleton Todd / Eagle Eve Sjodin Jeremy / HoHo Skiff James | Sundance Skinner Robyn / Lassie Skinner Thomas / Silverback Skros Patrick / Hops Smathers Terry / Homeward Smith Abbie / Abbie Smith Bruce | Bruiser Smith Charles / Plano Charles

Smith Cory / Flatlander Strano Phillip / Go Go Gadget Strausser Jeremy / Pinky Smith Heather | Lavender Smith James / Thumper Strine Gregory / Sleepy Head Smith Nicholas / Cosmo Stroud Crystal / Kizmit Stuart Ronald | Stryder Smith Patrick / Shao Smith Richard / Jersey Stubbert Galen / So Free Smith Robert / Happy Trails Stucky Sam / Lemon Lyme Smith Ryan / Mickey Studd-Sojka Alex / Lewis Stuth Alexander / Fraüg Smith Sharon / Mama Goose Smith Thomas / Torch Styll Stephanie / Rude Smoot Charles Robert / Suarez Rvan Snead Joshua / Jingle Suskauer Adrian / Manatee Sneddon Richard / Alpenglow Suter Jared / WANNABE Snedeker Devon / ORB Suzuki Eiji / Turnip Suzuki Yoshino / Nora Snvder Andrew / Blaze Socash Tyler | Future Dad Symon Zoe Tagliatela Vinny / Slice Sommerville William / Working Class Sonderman Nathan / NatGeo Taylor Caleb / Hootie Sonner Jerad / Peach Taylor Christine | Hazel Sorrell James / Quiet Taylor Elisabeth / Cranberry Templet Jordan / J. J. Don't Play Soucie Shannon / Kirby Sparks Bruce | Sparks Thibodeaux Mike I Jot C Thielo Carl / Casev Jones Spear Tara / Karma Speas Lisa / Conundrum Thompson Jason / General Lee Sproch Matthew / Crooner Thompson Judd / Father Goose Thompson Kaitlin / Gaia the Womble St. Jean Eric / \$un Dog Thomssen Jeff / Running/Walking Mink Staats Erica | Sprinkles Stafford Evan / Timon Thoreson Tyler / Pi Thornton Taylor / THOR Starck Andy | Stoneface Steede David / Passin-thru Thorsen Alice / Rockhopper Steel Martin / Pancake Thullen Edwin / Bear Stein Rachel / Swamp Turtle Thurston Carly | Mercury Stevens Andrew / The Kid Tilaner Eric / E.T.A. Stevenson Dee / Hiking Irish Tils Wesley / ME-GA Man Stidham Joseph / Grev Blaze Timmermann Klaus / Nobo Lobo Still Kelly / RamBlur Tisherman Rebecca / Waldorf Stilson Kimberly / Terrible Lizard Tobin Jacob / That Guy Stoddard Jayson / Gumby Bear Tomio Yamada / Bandanna Stokes Mickey / Meekness Tonkin Dvlan / Pickle Stover Mark / Gummi Bear Torman Megan / Minnie

BRIAN "ME DA" CUNNINGHAM





KARI "JILL" MCPARTLAND AND TYLER "JACK" MENEELY

Torres Darryl / Mass Tosten David Townley Jared | Pen-Dexter Trahey Paul / Corncob Trakowski Alexander / Shake'n'Bake Trawick Robert / Kaboose Triplett Scott / Scorch Tullis Megan / Furiosa Turner Carol / Halftime Turner Kaylan / Ninja Geisha Underhill Devin / Mantis Unick Matthew / Time Warp Upton John / Scuba Vacek Michael / Hui! Valle Michael / Peter Pan Van Alstyne Peter / Otter Van Lookeren Campagne Maurits / Brightside Vandam Dan / Apples Venkatsammy Justi / Bear Wall of Darkness **Vet Tyler /** Sir Eatz-a-lot Viken Erik / Boomerang Vilaplana Danielle / Sonic Wacha Benjamin / Scrappy Waggoner Kathy / Rabbit Walch Lauren / elle Walker Mary Ellen / Shuttle Wallace Thomas / Smiley Walter Angela / Mt. Rose Walter Tim / Patch Warner Daniel / Baloo Warner Dvlan / Expiration Date Watanabe Sandra / Little Trickle Wax Davis / Rooster Webster Mark / Marmalade

Weekman Erik / Archer

Wells, Jr. Jim / Elgixin Wells-Young Janis / Garnet Turtle Weltner Clint / PAFarmboy Welty Patricia / Iron Butterfly Wender Joshua / EL AUTO Werk David / 4-Trees Werthwein Kelly / Chef Ducky West Soren / Sojo Westall Hope | Everest Westmoreland Henry H / Moxie Wetzel Paul / Bear Bag Whalen Mark | Admiral Whitaker Will / Root Beard White Paul / Old Hiker Whiteside Phoebe / White Rabbit Whiteside Rob / Large Wiedemann Katrin / Robin Wilcox Jeffrev / M&M Williams Aaron / Snake Charmer/Tree Beard Williams Daniel / Gray Williams Don / Hot Rod Williams Emily / Prim Williams Emma / Sassafras Williams John / Shirley "Seatbelt" Sidetrail Williams Moriah / Chainsaw Williams Ronald / Slow Poke Williamson Maggie / Rubiks Wilson Brett / Castaway Wilson Cannon / Karate Kid Wilson Khalil / Pirate Winkle Michael / Thumper Winter Maximilian / Columbus Wiseman Samuel / Sorority Steve

Wisznia Françoise / Pie

Weller Peggy / Nanny Goat



Binde Daniel Knotts / Knotts

Boyer Dennis / Dutch

Brady Kelly / Wrangler

Bruns Dylan / Mainer

Burroughs Devin / Sputnik

Castillo Cassandra / Mosey

Clinard Samuel / Clifford

Cordle Will / Spacetime

Danner Thomas / Cycle

DeLong Jeff / PaPaw

Davidson III J.R. / WoodElf

Castleman Tommie / Tomcat

Collier Gregory / Nothing Yet

Cornelson Montgomery / Flounder

Chappell Jamieson / The Gentleman

Wolf Warren / Last Chance Wood Tyler / No Worries Wotton Roger / Sooner or Later Wozencroft Jade / Boss Wright Toby H. / UConn Wu Jiazhi / WishingBone Yamazaki Ken / Yoda Yates Cody / Wookie Yates Kyle / Kebler Yeates Maggie / Magpie Yeksigian Jack / BADJER Young Michael / Ptrooper Young Rachel / Ukulady Yugo Kate / Waterfall Zaniewski Dee / B-Hiker Zegans Molly / Shiver Zernia Peter / Stitch Ziminski Andrew / Ginger Patch Zimmer Stephanie / Bear Finder Zingrone Toby / Red Zitsman Toby / Audubon Zondervan Ron / Odder Zorlu Mustafa / Goat

Detaranto Cristina / TMIDevaux Alexander J. / Déjà Vu Dickey Emma / Athena Diebold Peter J. / Seamster Dufek David / 6'12" Durand Felix / Lucky Dvorak Dale / Five Falwell Beth / Kestrel Fettig Robert / Goatsbeard 20I5 Fink Parker | Pico! Andersen Kim / Holger Fluri Anna / Gravity Baker Christopher Gary / Turbo Fryska Monica A. / Voldemort Bartenfeld Ian Michael / Fun Fact Fussell Thomas / South Pole Becker Rhonda / Cookie Gaisser Joshua / Dirty Rotten Liar



PETER "STITCH" ZERNIA

Geiger Matthew | Snow Gilmore Seth / Crusty Goat Glenn Samuel / Nightmare Grünebaum Jannik / Mozart Gullotta William / Fair Enough Guzman Peter / Windwalker Halter Caine / Hoot Hanson Brian / Twig Harrington Nathan / Viking Harrington Sharon / Hiking Hartman Jere / Klincher Henley Hap / Wallace Hicks Christopher D. / Blackbeard Higgins Mark / SASQUATCH Hillier Sarah / Two-Braids Holsinger Christine / Voldemort Hughes Clara / Redfeather Hunt Timothy / Mrs Dash Hupp Matthew | Special Agent Jackson Daren Roschelle / Bo-Line Johnson Megan Rebecca / Artemis Johnson Mitchell B. / Smokes Jones Steven / Hulkspiration Killough Joel / Snacks Kinback Steve / Ramrod Koepka Grant / Grant Koepka Scott Nelson / Scott Korb. DVM Mark / Doc LaMarlan / Ghost Unit Lebowski King of Fun Lawley Eddye | Butternut Levy Susan / Kansas Louderback Cindy H. / Cindy Lou Mattox Benjamin Carey / Bilbo McDaniel Michael / Peacock McDermott Josh / Hulk McGee Teddy / Noseblind Meduna Hannah L. / Slomo Merrill Rachel A. / Peach Metz Evan / Tadpole Mihavlo Danielle | Angel Miller Benjamin / Veggie Viking Moore David / Dingo Newman Stephen / YOGI

Newton Jordan / Samaritan Niekamp James / Tao O'Donnell Shane | Jester Olwell Margaret / Witch Ondrus III Anthony Vincent / Twigs Orme Seth Thomas / Cap Orr Elaina / Stix Orr Rebecca / Coach Ott Donald / Otter Pagels Christopher / Bard the Changeling Phair MỹPhú / Phú Randich Ted / Scribbles Rassel Stephan / Hasselhoff Reese Mindy / Thunder Chicken Riffle John / Waterfall Sanchez Evin / Flask Schaefer Cameron / Neon Mountain's Schubert Christina / Coconut Seehorn Ariel / Chatter Seeman Laura / Saffron Shaier Sagi / Bobcat Standish Robin / Little Spoon Star Kyler / StarTrek Steckel Joseph / Gelati Stiansen Daniel / Rocky Strauss Russell / Disconnect Suminski Jamy Beth / Eddy Spoudazo Tuveson Erin / Bookie/Gator Tater Walker Eric | Forward Wells Zachary Marcus / Treasure Hunter Widener Joseph / Commander Joe Wood John B. / "Just John" Zella Natasha / Crafty

Carter Sarah / Wren

Dockstader David R. / Kentucky Geologist
Johnson Carol Scannell / Madison
Litchman Connor / Milk n' Beer
Mahoutchian Paul / Mahoutch-man
Mauger Carolyn / Braids
Pilgrim Matthew / Sonic



'08 Day Phil

'02 Lewis John D.

1998 Buehler Jeffrey

1983 Guthrie Patricia

1979 Catlin James R

1971 Perry John / Paul

1970 Gelfand Peter 🛖

'08 Harmon Ellie / (sm)ellie cat

'06 Hankins Brenda / Thankful
'06 Kimball Scott / Link

'04 Weir Michael | hiknmike

'03 Anderson Kevin / Fremont

1999 Clark Richard J. / Wild Chicago

1996 Ormiston Robert / Indiana Bob

1978 Duquette Richard / HeavyLoader

1991 Kloss James / Red Feather

Weinerth D. Mark / Sherlock
Wolf Adam / Sinatra

2013 — 1970
'13 Brown Ted / Bull Moose
'13 Casteen Dustin Lee / Tracker
'13 Longo Danielle / Dimples

Richards Courtney | Cherry Blossom

'13 Murphy Kevin / Flip '12 Collins Brock / EasyWind '12 Crumrine Benjamin / Sherbert

'12 Mitchell Benton / RaFiki
'12 Payne Cory Michael / Tom Foolery

idazo '12 Trichel Selena Jeri / Jeri Foolery ter '10 Carter Sarah / Nuthatch

orward '10 Reid Tom / Ramblin Tom
Marcus / Treasure Hunter

8

The ATC would like to thank volunteer Sandra Ragsdale and a number of volunteers in the Harpers Ferry Visitor Center as well as ATC staff members Dave Tarasevich and Tenny Webster for maintaining, editing, and compiling this year's listing.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

CAN BE FOUND AT:

APPALACHIANTRAIL.ORG/2000MILERS

hen Diana Christopulos, the president of the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club, first heard about the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline project in October 2015, she wasn't particularly concerned. After all, the retired management consultant and A.T. section-hiker says there are plenty of pipelines that cross through the Trail corridor or within its viewshed. That's not surprising considering the 2,100-plus-mile-long Trail is in the backyard of the nation's largest metro corridor.

Yet the more she learned about the project that could pass near her home in southwestern Virginia the less and less she liked it. "The proposal is a total trainwreck," says Christopulos who has played a leading role in opposing the project. "We've spent decades and millions of dollars protecting the Trail. If this is approved it would make much of that work meaningless."

If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission gives the project the green light, the pipeline will span 303 miles from Wetzel County, West Virginia and transport natural gas extracted from the Marcellus Shale across the Appalachian Mountains and connect with the Transco pipeline in Pittsylvania County, Virginia at a projected building cost of \$3.5 billion. Currently, says Christopulos, it's one of two active pipeline proposals in Virginia, although three additional proposals are being weighed to meet the growing demand for natural gas in the U.S. and abroad.

As Christopulos and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) central and southern regional director Andrew Downs unearthed details of the project, they

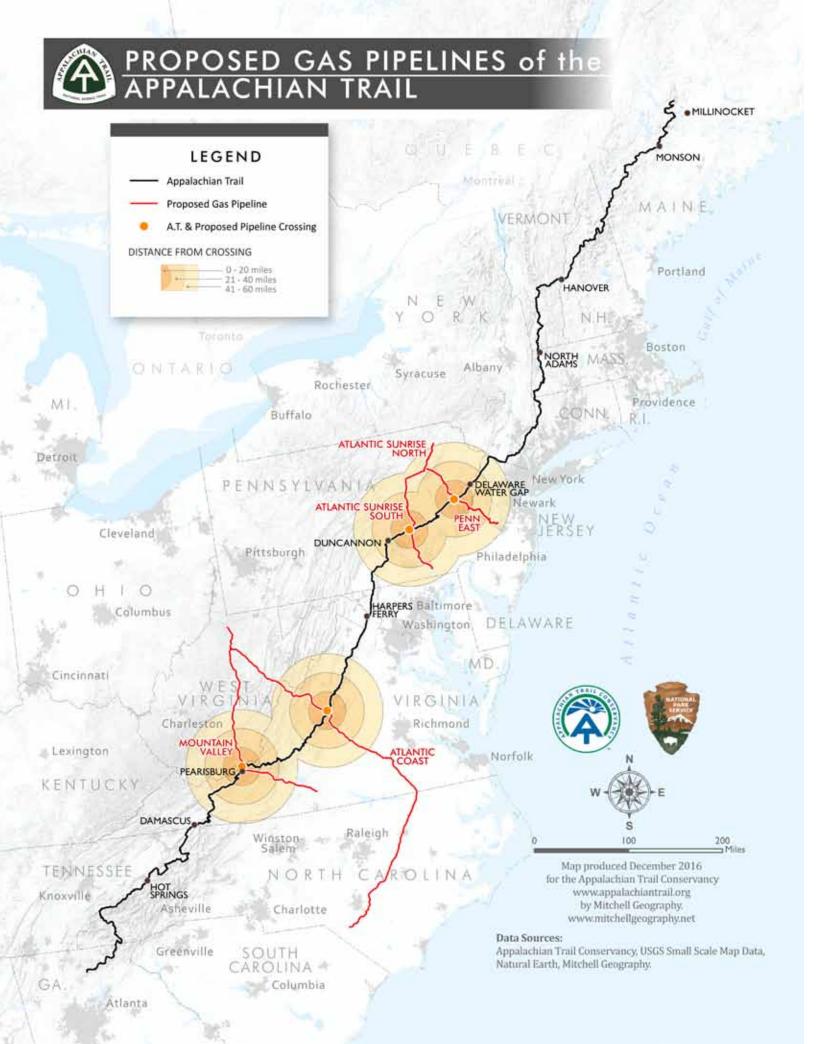
became alarmed by the large footprint of its planned route. Among their concerns is the possibility of an unusually wide utility corridor that could accommodate additional projects and would cut next to two wilderness areas while also scaling steep terrain over some of the region's highest peaks. In addition, the visual impacts were startling: in all, the ATC

identified 19 scenic locations along 100 miles of the Trail where the pipeline might be visible including McAfee Knob, an iconic lookout near Roanoke.

While the local impact of the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) is substantial, there are other more nuanced risks that national trail advocates across the country are paying close attention to. Among the ATC's primary concerns with the project is the threat of amending the Jefferson National Forest land management plan, approved in 2004, that would allow a 500-foot-wide corridor to cross through 3.4 miles of national forest. Current rules dictated by the publicly-vetted Jefferson National Forest land management plan limit the corridor to a width of 125 feet. According to Downs, amending an existing federal land management plan that currently has protective language for a national scenic trail to allow for incompatible development would be a game changer. Not just for the A.T. in southwestern Virginia, but for nationally designated trails from Florida to Alaska. "This project cuts straight to the core of what it means to be a scenic trail," explains Downs. "This is the first one that we are opposing. Not because it's the first one, but because it may be the worst. It's a thoughtful and conscious decision that we didn't take lightly, but we're confident we've chosen the right fight."







ANALYSIS & EFFECT

To be sure, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail is bisected throughout its length by hundreds of infrastructure projects, including interstate highways, electric transmission lines, and pipelines. According to the Partnership for the National Trails System, a pipeline compatibly bisects the trail — either above or below ground — on average every 3.5 miles. "These sorts of projects are going to continue to increase in the future," says Laura Belleville, the ATC's vice president of conservation and Trail management programs. "Although we've taken a strong position against the MVP, we are not against all pipelines. What concerns us are impacts that we can't mitigate."

According to Belleville, there are 10 pipeline projects that may unfold in the near future; there are three currently under consideration and one (Atlantic Sunrise) recently permitted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission — the agency that regulates the interstate transmission and sale of natural gas and electricity — that would impact the A.T. "It was clear that a gas boom was in motion and proposals for more pipelines crossing the A.T. would follow fast," says Downs. "We had to get up to speed really quickly to understand the ins and out of the process: what will the corridor look like? How will they access it? How do you get water and discharge it?"

The developmental pressure is precisely why the ATC adopted a pipeline crossing policy in 2015 to address infrastructure projects. The policy includes eight standards outlining the organization's expectation for future projects, among them, that the pipeline minimize its impact through the Trail corridor and that the project must demonstrate a pressing public need.

So when the Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC submitted its proposal, the ATC was becoming better prepared to evaluate the impacts of pipeline projects. As part of the federal regulatory process, an environmental impact statement is required to be presented to the public to analyze the potential effects of the project. To the alarm of Downs and Christopulos, there were flaws in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) released in September of last year. At the top of the ATC's concerns is that the analysis missed obvious impacts. For instance, the DEIS claimed there would be minimal impact on the viewshed, but analysis by the ATC demonstrates wide-reaching impact to the Trail's viewshed that were not demonstrated in the DEIS, including the pipeline's impact on the vista captured on the DEIS document's cover page. "From that exact location depicted on the cover page it's quite clear the view will be impacted. That speaks to the depth of inadequacy of the draft EIS," says Downs. "It's almost comical. The document is missing huge and important pieces of analysis."

If approved, they worried, the pipeline would have an unprecedented $\,$



There are four pipeline projects currently under consideration that would impact the A.T. Atlantic Sunrise was recently permitted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission — the agency that permits interstate natural gas pipelines

impact on the Trail. Yet the impact is not just visual, Christopulos says the project has potential public safety consequences since it crosses steep slopes and karst topography, a landscape that features sinkholes, caves, and underground water. The pipeline will also bisect an active seismic zone where a rupture could damage property and imperillives. She also cites social justice concerns since 14 of the 17 counties it crosses in

rural Virginia and West Virginia have lower than average incomes.

The ATC's president and CEO, Ron Tipton says that this pipeline and other future proposals are high on the organization's radar. "We understand the need for energy and natural gas as a legitimate source of clean fuel. We understand that it's going to be here for a while. It's not our policy that we oppose any of these facilities – what we are saying is they ought to be really necessary and have as small an impact as possible," explains Tipton. "We're very selective as to when we come out and say no, but this project is unacceptable." Those are pretty strong words coming from an organization that seldom draws a line in the sand; but it's not just the ATC that has opposed the MVP.

While Virginia's Governor Terry McAuliffe and the Roanoke Regional Chamber are notable supporters of the pipeline, Christopulos says that the project has broad opposition in southwestern Virginia and doesn't fall on typical party lines. Last December, when the 90-day public comment period for the DEIS came to a close, Downs estimates 1,000 letters were sent to FERC in opposition to the project. In addition, four of five Virginia county governments – Giles, Craig, Montgomery, and Roanoke – have said the document was insufficient. "This a largely driven by the need to move quickly," Downs argues. "The public investment is millions of dollars in the A.T.; we shouldn't force this through."

While Downs was concentrating on the scenic and environmental impacts of the MVP, he hadn't contemplated another suite of effects that can potentially set a negative precedent for the entire A.T. and throughout the national trails system. For decades, the ATC and other trail organizations have developed standard language and prescriptions to manage the A.T. corridor, such as rigid viewshed protocols, wildlife habitat protections, and preservation norms for cultural and historic sites. Since the Trail passes through a wide range of public management jurisdictions, from state parks to national forests, a stable order of land management practices aid in maintaining a consistent quality of experience from Maine to Georgia.

SETTING A PRECEDENT

Gary Werner, the executive director of the Partnership for the National Trails System based in Madison, Wisconsin said that the standard language of management of the A.T. throughout its corridor has set the bar for other national scenic and historic trails across the nation. "The A.T. serves as the model over and over again," he says of the first nationally designated scenic trail following the passage of the National Trails Systems Act by the U.S. Congress in 1968. So in 2013, Werner's organization convened national trail advocates to develop a pipeline and linear transmission policy that could draw on many of those best practices developed by the ATC. "We developed the policy as a result of concerns from many trail systems that there's going to be more and more pressure to build pipelines and overhead electrical transmission that crosses trails. We wanted to have a statement from the whole community that other trails could use as a reference," adds Werner.

Around the same time that a national policy was created, the U.S. National Forest was revising its planning protocols for developing national forest land management plans, known as the 2012 Planning Rule. Federal legislation requires that the public participate in the national forest planning process. Werner says that they were able to convince the Forest Service that federal forest's



with segments of national trails should have specially designated management areas defined in their respective forest plans by drawing on the precedent established on the A.T. corridor. The 2012 Planning Rule dictates that national trails should be managed to maintain its unique special character or purpose. That's particularly meaningful to the A.T. since more than half of the Trail passes through national forest land on several national forests each managed by a unique land management plan that is required by federal law to be renewed every 10 to 15 years.

"Our argument is the fact that these national trails are Congressionally designated and established to maximize recreational opportunities and preserve the historic and cultural resources of the trails. We're asserting that their status are as important as national parks, wilderness, or wild and scenic rivers and need to be treated with a high level of care," says Werner. "To do that, the land management agencies must define a right of way. Not just a treadway, but a corridor that is not subject to the normal multiple-use land management approach that's mandated in national forests."

So what caught Werner's attention about the Mountain Valley Pipeline was the threat to amend the Jefferson National Forest plan to create a "designated utility corridor" up to 500 feet wide to allow the pipeline crossing. Although the Jefferson National Forest plan was finalized in 2004, before the 2012 planning guidelines, it included special management protections for the A.T. Among the concerns of a 500-foot corridor is not only the visual impact, but it's size would invite other utility projects to co-locate and would amend a plan that was already vetted by the public and approved by stakeholders and administrators.

"A project should not totally change the management plan. Our position is the pipeline should be the exception to the rule, it shouldn't become the rule. We see this as a potentially very damaging precedential project," says Werner. In particular, he's worried that changing the standards of protection would call into the question the ethos of the national trails system. "They have a special place in the heritage of America's public land. The A.T. remains our posterchild because of its familiarity and cache; it's like the Yellowstone of the trail system. This would lower the status of the entire system."

The ATC's Belleville, calls the prospect of the new pipeline corridors one of the Trail's most challenging present and future



The proposed pipeline would be visible from many locations on Kelly Knob (shown here). This view would likely be one of the most heavily effected

Visual impact simulations by Hill Studios

threats. "We'll only know the true negative effects on our lands after the lines have been installed, when it's too late." She says that the ATC's strategy to respond to the impacts of the gas boom will require a high level of coordination from a broad range of stakeholders, including Trail advocates, all levels of governments, citizens, and land managers.

That approach is consistent with the recently launched A.T. Landscape Conservation Initiative — a collaborative effort of both private and public partners and agencies to conserve ecological, cultural, historic, and economic values across a wide-ranging area surrounding the A.T. The goal, says Belleville, is to look at the A.T. landscape as an entire system, rather than a corridor segmented by boundaries. While 99 percent of the Trail itself is protected, the large landscape initiative is tasked with protecting viewsheds and monitoring local environmental impacts in order to maintain a holistic Trail experience that includes a system of iconic vistas, healthy ecosystems, and irreplaceable cultural, historic, and natural resources from Springer Mountain to Katahdin. And perhaps no project could have such a comprehensive threat to the Trail experience than the impact and precedent set by the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

In response to the fierce backlash over the controversial project, the *Roanoke Times* reported on January 31 that FERC was delaying the release of a final environmental impact statement, although a new release date has not been established. The commission, it was reported, have requested additional information from Mountain Valley, LLC. that was outlined in a 28-page document. While the delay is welcome news, Christopulos and Downs argue that the MVP project has been rushed and alternative routes weren't adequately considered in the first place. "They've been very aggressive and forced it through and selected a route that doesn't meet best practices that have been utilized for decades. If they followed the best practices they wouldn't have to amend the forest plan," says Downs. "This is largely driven by the need to move quickly. There are no reasons why we should rush this."

In addition to the grassroots backlash to the project, there are other hurdles facing approval of the pipeline, including the pending decision by the U.S. Forest Service to amend the Jefferson National Forest management plan, as well as a thumbs down from the National Park Service since the pipeline would also bisect the Blue Ridge Parkway. For now, not only is the MVP project a clear focus of concern, but the ATC's president Tipton says that future pipelines and other infrastructure projects will be a top priority of the organization. "We're going to be very public at the local and national level for these proposed routes. We're going to demand these pipelines be in the best places possible to minimize the impact on the Trail," he says. "When they talk about promoting energy infrastructure, we'll ensure that those plans are balanced with the value of nature and the potential impact on America's most popular and best known long trail." \wedge

For more information visit: appalachiantrail.org/MountainValleyPipeline



VIEWS FROM THE MAINE WOODS

THE 41st APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY CONFERENCE AUGUST 4 - 11, 2017 AT COLBY COLLEGE | WATERVILLE, MAINE









SCHEDULE AT **A GLANCE**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Pre-conference – Art & Land Conservation Symposium

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Pre-conference – Art & Land Conservation Symposium

1:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Check-in. registration & exhibits

6:00 - 7:00 PM - "Views from the Maine Woods" photography presentation 7:30 - 9:30 PM - Opening Reception

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

7:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in. Registration, and Exhibits Daytime – Hikes, Excursions, and Workshops 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM - "Views from the Maine Woods" photography presentation 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM - ATC Business

6:00 PM to 7:45 PM - Benton MacKaye & Life Member dinner (by invitation)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in and Registration (NOTE: at noon, registration moves to Cotter Union – 1:00 to 6:00 PM 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Exhibits **Daytime** – Hikes, Excursions, and Workshops 6:00 PM – ALDHA hiker reception

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in and *Daytime* – Hikes, Excursions, Workshops and Special Activities

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in and Registration

Daytime – Hikes, Excursions and Special Activities

5:00 PM to 7:30 PM - Lobster Dinner 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Conference Volunteer Reception

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in and Registration

Daytime – Hikes, Excursions and Special Activities

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Check-in and Registration

Daytime – Hikes, Excursions and Special Activities

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Check-out and return room kevs No events planned – Happy Trails!

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 1 – Registration opens at www.ATC2017.org. Mailed registrations will not be Participants may be able to sign up for these events processed before May 1.

JUNE 15 – Last day for early registration discounts. Mailed registrations postmarked after this date will not receive a discount.

JULY 15 – Online registration closes July 15. on-site at Colby College.

AUGUST 4, 1:00 PM - Conference Opens.

GENERAL INFORMATION

COLBY COLLEGE

On a warm August day, you can capture "the way life should be" sitting, walking or biking the beautiful grounds of Colby College. Perhaps you would prefer trying cuisine from Bon Appetit dining services, sitting on the steps of Miller Library, visiting the Art Museum, lounging in Cotter Union's pub, or taking a stroll along Colby's walking trails. Conference workshops, evening entertainment and presentations are all within a 5-minute walk. Waterville is centrally located half-way between the mountains and the coastline. The Kennebec River water which flows through Waterville has crossed the A.T. 30 hours earlier.

GETTING TO COLBY COLLEGE DIRECTIONS TO FIELD HOUSE FOR REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN

BY CAR from the South: I-95 North to Exit 127 (Me 11/ME 137 Kennedy Memorial Drive (KMD). At the end of the ramp, turn Right onto KMD. At the first traffic light (0.2 miles) turn left (just past McDonalds), at the light onto Washington St. and follow for 1.5 miles. Stay right as you enter campus. The Field House will be on your left in 0.4 miles.

BY CAR from the North: I-95 South to Exit 127 (Me 11/ME 137 Kennedy Memorial Drive). Turn Left onto Kennedy Memorial Drive and follow directions as

BY PLANE: Portland Jetport, a 75-minute drive south, and Bangor International Airport, about an hour north, offer commercial air service from most major airlines.

Waterville, ME Field House Exit 127

BY BUS: Greyhound provides daily service to Waterville. The Waterville terminal is located at the Xpress Stop Service Station at 320 Kennedy Memorial Drive, about two miles from campus. Currently two arrivals from Boston/Portland at 2:25 PM and 8:50 PM. Visit www.greyhound.com for latest information.

BY TRAIN: Amtrak service between Boston's North Station and Portland, ME. Visit www.amtrakdowneaster.com for current information.

BY CONFERENCE SHUTTLE: Maine2017 has made special arrangements for a bus between Portland Jetport, Concord bus/Amtrak station and Colby College. Portland pickup on Friday, 8/4 at 3:00 PM; Saturday, 8/5 at 1:00 PM. Return on Friday, 8/11 departing Colby at 9:00 AM (allow 75 minutes travel time). Purchase tickets \$35 (each way) in advance when you register.

WHERE TO STAY

Colby's campus is beautiful and comprises 714 acres and 64 buildings; almost half are residence halls. Two dining halls, a student union, an extensive athletic complex and a campus pub provide additional amenities. More than two-thirds of the campus is a State Wildlife Management area. Johnson Pond, the campus trails and lots of wide-open space provide multiple reasons to stay on campus during Maine 2017.

RESIDENCE HALLS

Colby's 30 residence halls have a unique design that fits within the architectural style of this classic New England College. Double and single dorm rooms are offered with either a common shower/bathroom or a suite arrangement with one bathroom per cluster. All rooms have linens (pillow & pillow case, blanket, 2 sheets & 2 towels). Rooms are not air-conditioned (even in August, evenings are typically cool in Maine). A desk lamp, small fan and clothes hangers may be useful. No cooking appliances are allowed in residence halls. Hall access will be by a punch code and room access will be via keys. There is a \$50 key deposit collected at registration (Credit cards preferred). Washers and dryers are located in each residence hall. Laundry cards and detergent are available for purchase at the Bookstore/Info Desk in Cotter Union. Residence halls are open from 1:00 PM on Friday, August 4 to Noon on Friday, August 11.

Open tenting is on the lawn and wooded areas between the Roberts dining hall and the Field House. Colby asks that you shift the footprint of your tent every 2 or 3 days so as to not kill the grass. There is a \$10 per person per night camping fee. Water, showers and toilets are in the Athletic Center 24 hours/ day. A common area, with tables and portable toilets, are provided in the tenting area.

RV CAMPING

RV check-in is at the Registration Desk with RV sites in the Mary Low parking lot. There is a \$10 per person per night camping fee. Although a little more distant from the Field House, sites along the perimeter of this lot overlook the 128-acre Perkins Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary. There are no hook-ups. Water, showers and toilets are in the Athletic Center 24 hours/day. Portable toilets are provided in the Mary Low parking lot.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

While we encourage you to stay on campus, there are alternatives in the area. See www.ATC2017.org for accommodations in Waterville. Book early as August is busy. Also within a 30 minute drive there are several campgrounds, hotels, and resort-type inns and B&Bs.

WHERE TO EAT

MEALS

Meals are provided on campus at two dining halls, one with some outdoor seating (Dana Hall). Colby's food service provider, Bon Appétit, operates over 650 cafés for corporations, universities, and museums and is known for its sustainable and wholesome food procurement. Bon Appétit food is cooked from scratch, including sauces, stocks, and soups. Special dietary requirements need to be put on the registration form. As there are no restaurants near campus, attendees are encouraged to order meals when registering. Meals may be ordered individually. The most economical arrangement is to order a meal plan (breakfast, lunch or trail lunch and dinner), which is priced at the cost to the conference.

Maine's signature seafood will be featured Tuesday night at the on-campus dining hall(s) with a traditional Maine lobster dinner. The menu will feature freshly-caught steamed lobster, clams, mussels, corn on the cob, steamed potatoes, cole slaw, rolls - plus usual dessert station, the drink station, the salad bar, etc. There is also a steak and a vegetarian entree for those who don't want lobster. The meal plan includes the lobster menu at dinner on Tuesday night or you can purchase the lobster dinner individually. Please join us for this quintessential Maine meal.

Waterville has a variety of restaurants downtown (about 2 miles) and near the I-95 exits. Check at registration and/or info desk for local restaurant coupons. We cannot be responsible for unforeseen problems and late returns from your day's activities off-campus after the dining halls close (7:30 PM).

Dining Room Hours: Breakfast 6:00 - 8:30 AM; Lunch 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM; Dinner 5:00 - 7:30 PM.

DISTRACTIONS

BOOKSTORE / LIBRARY / MUSEUM

Miller Library hours – Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM - cannot check out books. Bookstore hours - Monday-Saturday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

Colby Museum of Art hours - Monday-closed; Tuesday-Saturday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Sunday, 12:00 -5:00 PM.

INTERNET SERVICES / ATM

Most buildings, including all residence halls, have wifi connection. You will be given the username/password upon check in. A limited number of computers are available for attendees, check information desk. ATM is located in Cotter Union (7:00 am-midnight).

FUN STUFF!

FAMILY ACTIVITIES / STUDENTS UNDER 18

Families are welcome and encouraged to attend the conference. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult/quardian for all conference events and meals. Many hikes, special activities and workshops are appropriate for families with both small children and teenagers. You as parent/guardian are best qualified to find the right activity for your children based on their experience, temperament and fitness.

SWIMMING / RECREATION EQUIPMENT

Colby offers a variety of recreation equipment for check-out at the Athletic Center Information Desk including badminton, board games, bocce, croquet, frisbees, horseshoes, ladder ball, tennis ball golf, and volleyball at no cost. Swimmers may enjoy the indoor collegiate pool in Colby's Athletic Center. Hours are: Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; 2:00 - 5:30 PM

Saturday 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Sunday 2:00 - 5:30 PM; 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Monday-Thursday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; 2:00 - 5:30 PM; 7:00 - 9:00 PM

CONFERENCE T-SHIRTS

A commemorative t-shirt is available in ordered sizes for pre-registered attendees. The conference shirt is 100% microfiber polyester, lightweight, roomy and highly breathable (sizes S-XXL, no children sizes). If ordered during pre-registration, the cost is \$15 each (\$2.00 extra for XXL). T-shirts are available for purchase at the conference for \$20 (\$22 for XXL). A complimentary volunteer T-shirt will be given to all event volunteers. Volunteer by going to: www.appalachiantrail.org/maine2017volunteers

Do you play an instrument? Bring it to the conference for the Jam Session on Thursday evening!

Archival scanner (high resolution scanner), compliments of the Maine State Museum will be on hand to scan historical A.T. pictures/maps /documents. Attendees are encouraged to bring materials for scanning.

EVENING PROGRAMS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM – Opening Reception

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

8:00 PM - Entertainment: Tim Sample, Maine Humorist

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00 PM - Film: Grandma Gatewood "Trail Magic"

7:00 PM - Presentation: Sam Jamke, In Shackleton's Footsteps: A Journey to Antarctica

8:00 PM - Entertainment: Music- Alumni Jazz Band w/dancing

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00 PM - Film: "A Walk in the Woods" 7:00 PM - Presentation: Lucas St. Clair. Land Conservation in Maine

8:00 PM - Entertainment: Music-Maine Contradance w/ John McIntyre & Some Reel People

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

7:00 PM - Film: "Surveyor of the Soul" 7:00 PM - Presentation: TBD 8:00 PM - Entertainment: Music-Dreadnaught -multi-movement prog-rock

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

7:00 PM - Film: National Geographic A.T. documentary

7:00 PM - Presentation: Kevin Gardner: New **England Stonewalls**

8:00 PM - Entertainment: Music - Anni Clark—Bluegrass/Folk

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

7:00 PM - Film: "Southbounders" 7:00 PM - Presentation: Buzz Caverly, Former Supt. of Baxter Park-Stories from

8:00 PM - Entertainment: Music-Jam Session (bring your own instrument)

PLEASE SEE PAGE 26 FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT

PRE & POST **CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES**

- ART & LAND CONSERVATION **SYMPOSIUM**
- AMC MAINE WILDERNESS LODGE TRIPS
 - MAINE HUTS & TRAIL TRIP

PLEASE SEE PAGE 27 FOR MORE DETAILS

[2] [3]

RECEPTIONS

OPENING RECEPTION

All registered attendees are invited to the Opening Reception in the Field House/Exhibit area, Friday, August 4, 2017, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.

ATC BENTON MACKAYE & LIFE MEMBER DINNER

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy will host this invitation-only dinner in the Page Commons, Saturday, August 5, 2017, 6:00 pm.

ALDHA LONG DISTANCE HIKERS RECEPTION

The Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association hosts a reception on Sunday, August 6, 2017, 6:00 - 7:30 PM, Diamond Atrium/outside patio. Please register for this event so we have a headcount.

CONFERENCE VOLUNTEER RECEPTION

Without your help this conference would be impossible. Volunteers, please join us for this reception on Tuesday, August 8, 2017, 4-6 PM, at the Diamond Atrium & outside patio.

PAY ATTENTION

PETS AND SERVICE ANIMALS

Pets are NOT allowed at any scheduled event, activity or in any campus building during the conference. A local boarding service, Willow Run, provides boarding and daycare services for your pet (207-495-3596; email inn@willowrunfordogs.com). Service animals that are under suitable control and compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for title II (State and local government services) and title III (public accommodations and commercial facilities) are allowed.

FIRST AID / MEDICATIONS

Everyone is responsible for their own safety and first aid needs. Carry your medicines, sunscreen and bug spray. Activity leaders are not authorized to dispense or provide medicines. If you have a medical condition, advise your activity leader of that condition prior to leaving campus.

DISCLAIMER / ACTIVITY LEADERS

Everyone is responsible for their own safety and must assume the risks and liabilities. ATC, AMC, MATC and Colby College officers and representatives and other volunteers shall not be held liable for any injury, loss or damage to persons or property arising from any conference activity. Some activities require additional vendor waivers which must be signed before participating in that activity. Activities may be cancelled due to low enrollment, lack of drivers, bad weather, etc. Activity leaders have the authority to turn away attendees who are not adequately prepared.

EMERGENCY CONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER

Emergency conference contact number: 207-859-4755.

ALCOHOL/SMOKING

Colby is a tobacco-free campus. Please be respectful of alcohol consumption while on campus; several of the conference receptions will provide beer/wine. Alcohol is also available at Colby's Blue Light pub.

NEED DRIVERS FOR ACTIVITIES

Many are needed each day. Please consider being a carpool driver. If you are available to drive, indicate this on the registration form. Departure areas for these activities are located in a common area for better organization and efficiency. An activity may be cancelled due to lack of drivers. Many activities go to places with limited parking and/or over gravel roads. Carpooling increases efficiency and reduces carbon footprint. We request that each passenger compensate their driver \$0.10 per mile (rounded to the nearest dollar) for gas plus entrance and parking fees (estimated amounts are provided with activity descriptions).

REGISTRATION

To participate in Views from the Maine Woods you must register. Registration starts May 1, 2017 online at: www.ATC2017.org or by mail with the attached form. We encourage all on-line registrants to fill out the paper form in advance of filling out the registration form on-line.

Register prior to June 15, 2017 in order to receive the early registration discount. Registering early is encouraged as many of the hikes, excursions, workshops and special activities have size limits and fill up within the first few weeks.

This event is open to members of any A.T. maintaining clubs, ALDHA, A.T. Museum or the ATC. If you are not a member of any one of these organizations, we encourage you to join one. Otherwise, a \$40 membership fee will be charged. Participants may choose to join: Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), Maine Appalachian Trail Club (MATC) or Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). Membership is not required if registering for only a single day.

CHECK-IN AND ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Check in and on-site registration begins at 1:00 PM, Friday, August 4th in the Colby College Field House in Waterville, Maine. Registration continues through August 10th.

REGISTRATION HOURS AND LOCATIONS

DAY	Times	Location
Friday, August 4	1:00 PM to 10:00 PM	Field House
Saturday, August 5	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Field House
Sunday, August 6	7:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Field House
Sunday, August 6	1:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Cotter Union
Monday, August 7 – Thursday, August 10	8:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Cotter Union
Friday, August 11 (Check out)	7:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Cotter Union

REGISTRATION FORM

You are encouraged to register on-line (<u>www.ATC2017.org</u>). If mailing registration forms, **complete a separate form for each adult and child**. Make copies (both sides) as needed. Please print neatly or type. Note that all costs are per person. Forms received after July 15 will not receive a confirmation. Online registration ends at midnight July 15, 2017.

Name	Please indicate the information you want on your name tag.
Address	Name
City	Affiliation
State Zip Country Telephone (day)	☐ Please check here if wheel chair access is required. Please describe any physical or medical conditions that will require special accomm
(cell)(emergency)	dations (for example, a ground floor room).
E-mail address	
☐ Male ☐ Female Age Group ☐ Under 13 ☐ 13–25 ☐ 26+	

LODGING NOTE: PRICES ARE PER PERSON PER NIGHT (TAX INCLUDED)

	Fri. 8/4	Sat. 8/5	Sun. 8/6	Mon. 8/7	Tues. 8/8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10	Fri. 8/11	Cost	Total
Single Room									\$60/day	\$
Double Room									\$35/day	\$
Tenting									\$10/day	\$
RV									\$10/day	\$
									Lodging Total	\$
Room-mate request: (for double rooms only) Special Notes:							□ No on-campus lo	odging required.		

Notes: Linen service (pillow and pillow case, blanket, 2 sheets, 2 towels) provided. Child 5 and under, no bed or tent site required.

MEALS

	Fri. 8/4	Sat. 8/5	Sun. 8/6	Mon. 8/7	Tues. 8/8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10	Fri. 8/11	Cost	Total
Meal Plan (Includes Bre	leal Plan (Includes Breakfast, Lunch/Trail Lunch, and Dinner. Lobster Dinner included.)									
Adult									\$28/day	\$
Child (Ages 5 - 12)									\$18/day	\$
Adult w/Trail Lunch									\$28/day	\$
Child w/Trail Lunch									\$18/day	\$
Meals A La Carte										
Breakfast									\$8/meal	\$
Lunch									\$10/meal	\$
Trail Lunch									\$10/meal	\$
Dinner									\$15/meal	\$
Lobster Dinner									\$30/meal	\$
									Meals Total	\$

Specialty Dietary Requests: □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □ Gluten Free

WORKSHOPS, SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, HIKES, EXCURSIONS, AND RECEPTIONS

Enter the appropriate activity code in the box. If registering for a hike, excursion, or special activity, and are willing to drive, please note how many passengers you can take _____ and place a "D" next to the activity code (s) below.

WORKSHOPS (ENTER WORKSHOP CODE)	Sat. 8/5	Sun. 8/6	Mon. 8/7
8:00 AM			
9:45 AM			
1:15 PM			
1:45 PM			
3:30 PM			

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	Mon. 8/7	Tues. 8/8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10
Code:				
Fee, if required	\$	\$	\$	\$
			Total	\$

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HIKES	Sat. 8/5	Sun. 8/6	Mon. 8/7	Tues. 8/8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10
First Choice:						
Second Choice:						

EXCURSIONS	Sat. 8/5	Sun. 8/6	Mon. 8/7	Tues. 8/8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10
First Choice:						
Second Choice:						

RECEPTIONS/MEETINGS (FREE) Check box if you will be attending					
Opening Reception August 4th, 7:30 to 9:30 PM					
ATC Business Meeting August 5th, 3:00 to 5:30 PM					
ALDHA Reception August 6th, 6:00 PM					

ART & LAND CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

Check box if you will be attending. You will be contacted by email or phone for registration details.

Enter costs below for lodging, meals, and activities. A credit card may be used to pay for registrations. If mailing registration forms, one check or money order

REGISTRATION		strations postm by June 15, 201			strations postm ne 16, 2017 & la		Total		
	Adult	Age 13 to 25	12 & Under	Adult	Age 13 to 25	12 & Under	\$		
Full Week Registration	\$60	\$25	FREE	\$85	\$35	FREE	\$		
Single Day Registration Date:	\$35	\$15	FREE	\$45	\$20	FREE	\$		
Lodging Total (from above									
					Meals T	otal (from above)	\$		
				Spe	ecial Activities T	otal (from above)	\$		
T-shirts (indicate quantity/sizes): S M L XL XXL (Each \$15; \$17 XXL)									
Conference Patch (Indicate quant	ty) (Each	\$3)					\$		
Portland Shuttle: Fri. 8/4 @	3:00 PM	_ Sat. 8/5 @ 1:00) PM Fri.	8/11 @ 9:00 AN	/I (Each \$35)		\$		
Non-member fee \$40 (for individu Select club: Appalachian T						tain Club	\$		
			(GRAND TOTAL	\$				
Make check or money order payable to ATC and mail to ATC 2017 Conference, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, 25425. If paying by credit card: Amex Discover Mastercard Card Number: Expiration Date: /									
						Expiration	Date:/		
Total Amount:	5	iignature:							
REFUND POLICY Cancellations and requests for refu handling fee.	nds must be ma	de in writing to a	bove mailing add	dress postmarked	d by July 15, 201	7. Refunds will be	e in full less a \$10		

Reminder: Pre & Post Conference Activities must be scheduled directly with the provider at the links provided on page 27.

RELEASE FORM

Participation in ATC's 2017 Conference is voluntary. In consideration of permitting me to participate in these activities, and fully recognizing that these activities ties are potentially hazardous, by registering, I for myself and for anyone entitled to act on my behalf, hereby waive and release all claims or liabilities of any kind against the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, its affiliated clubs and members coordinating this conference, Colby College, and the activity leaders, their representatives and successors, for any personal injury, death or property damage arising out of or in any way connected with such activities, including without limitation any acts or omissions caused in whole or part by negligence. This applies to activities both on and off campus.

Signed:	Date:
If registrant is under 18 years of age, parent or guardian mus	st indicate their consent to the release by signing below.
Signed:	Date:





HIKES

The Views from the Maine Woods are often enjoyed from a hiking trail or mountaintop. Trails may have ocean views, have exposed ridges (even though Maine is the most heavily forested state in the US) or other unique features. We offer over 60 unique hikes, 1 to 5 times. That's over 240 hiking opportunities during 6 days. Hikes range from flat walks within 10-15 minutes of conference headquarters at Colby College to iconic section and backpack hikes on the Appalachian Trail deep in the Maine wilderness.

Many trailheads are 1.5 driving hours from the conference site; so longest hikes with farthest trailheads will start early. On the other hand, at least 3 hikes each day are scheduled at 11:00 AM so participants may first attend a workshop if desired.

Maine has the highest coastal mountains (maybe the only coastal mountains) in the Eastern US. A number of hikes take place along the coast with ocean views – one is even on an island. We also have 25 hikes suitable for most families that are 5 miles or less plus 40 hikes suitable for most children 8 years and older that are 9 miles or less. We members over 65 don't like to highlight this, but these hikes are great for seniors as well. You are best qualified to find the right hike for your children based on their experience, temperament and fitness. We are available to help at the event.

Hikers often overestimate their ability at these conferences. If you have never hiked 6 days in a row or if you have never hiked in this area, it is better to start with a slower-paced, fairly level hike, i.e. the Kennebec Highlands (still the highest points in Kennebec County). Your first couple of hikes should be ones you know you can finish and ones you know you'll enjoy as you learn about history, nature or photography. Work your way up to more challenging hikes, i.e. the High Peaks sections of the A.T., as you learn the terrain and hiking conditions.

Carefully read descriptions. The terms easy, moderate and strenuous are intentionally omitted except where really difficult hikes are concerned. We include information about length, elevation changes, steep climbs, and other trail challenges as well.

The same hike on different days may be a different experience due to temperature, humidity, slippery rocks and mud from a rainstorm, dinner last night, etc. We want you to enjoy your experience. Most hikers register within two weeks after registration opens. While we have an enormous number of slots available, hikes have limits and popular hikes fill up quickly.

Some hikes depart before breakfast is served in dining halls. Hikers going on those hikes can use their breakfast tickets at a designated location to obtain Grab-N-Go breakfasts from 5:30am – 6:30am.

TRAIL MAPS & GUIDEBOOKS

Trail maps will be available for each A.T. hike for those registered for a particular hike. Trip leaders will have an A.T. section map with additional information.

NON A.T. SECTION HIKES

Hikes # 01-33 offers 115 hikes. Past evaluations recommended primarily less challenging hikes and our program reflects this recommendation. All of these hikes are 10 miles or less: 50% are 5 miles or

less. Generally these hikes are listed from easier to more challenging, however, an easy hike for one person may be difficult for another. Read descriptions, ask questions. The % of trail mileage on the A.T. precedes the title if applicable.

A.T. SECTION HIKES

131 hikes cover 122 miles north from Height of the Land (Rt. 17), over Saddleback and Bigelow Ranges to the Kennebec ferry to Monson and 11 miles of the 100 Mile Wilderness. Four backpacking hikes are included in this category.

We offer 3 skill levels:

- **34-42**: Slower hikers set the pace. Hike leaders stop along the way to point out interesting discoveries. Options to complete an A.T. section: 40- 41
- **43-54**: Faster hikes; at a bit faster pace, less breaks. AT section hikes: 43-44-48-49-50; 52-53-54.
- **55-60**: RESTRICTED very fast-paced hikes for fit, experienced long distance hikers. Descriptions may not include difficulty as they are all long, difficult hikes. Options to complete an A.T. section: 55-56-57 plus 60.

NO SHOW POLICY

Hikers must cancel 24 hours before a hike or risk removal from future hike lists so waitlisted hikers may join.

HIKE LEADERS HAVE FINAL HIKER APPROVAL. THEY MAY CHOOSE NOT TO ALLOW YOU ON THEIR HIKE IF YOU ARRIVE LATE.

HIKES DESK

Everyone should stop by our desk after registering to reconfirm their hikes. Friday we open 1:00 PM - 10:00 PM; Saturday through Thursday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM in the registration area. From 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM Saturday through Thursday all volunteers are at the Hikes Departure Area if you have questions or need to change hikes. Hikes and many leaders were selected over a year ago and changes do occur (i.e. hikes cancelled due to low registration, leaders added/cancelled or bad weather). If you're not interested in group hikes, we have trail maps, guidebooks and other information and can help you plan your own hike.

SOLO DRIVERS

Obtain driving directions and flagging tape from the Hikes Desk for guided hikes at least 24 hours before driving solo to any hike. Some guided hike descriptions note solo drivers are not allowed (limited trailhead parking). The Departure Area does not allow solo drivers unless they have both flagging tape & driving directions.

KEY SWAP DRIVERS

Many A.T. Section Hikes are key swaps. Please consider driving and bring an extra set of car keys.

HIKES DEPARTURE AREA

Hikes depart promptly! Your responsibility is to arrive properly equipped at least 20 minutes before the hike leaves. In those short 20 minutes your hike leader checks in up to 18 hikers, assesses their skills, answer questions and form carpools.

EACH DAY 150 DRIVERS ARE NEEDED. CONSIDER DRIVING A CARPOOL.



80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMPLETION OF THE A.T.

August 14, 2017 will mark the 80th Anniversary of the completion of the Appalachian Trail. The last section of trail to be completed in 1937 is located in Carrabassett Valley, Maine. This section is marked by a bronze plaque placed along the trail on a high ridge located between Sugarloaf and Spaulding Mountain. It is logistically difficult to hike to this location on a day hike.



However, this August, at the ATC Maine 2017 Conference, special van-supported Anniversary hikes (#56N & #56S) will be offered which will make visiting this spot a little easier.

KENNEBEC FERRY

The Kennebec Ferry will be in operation from 9:00 until 2:00 PM. If you plan on visiting the

ferry or hiking on the A.T. south from the crossing on your own, please keep in mind that August is the Ferry's busiest month. The ferry operator sometimes needs to shuttle over 50 hikers across the river. Please arrive early if you intend to cross in either direction. If you are in a large group, please let the ferry operator know you are coming and how many are in your group - gcaruso@myfairpoint.net. Maine2017 will take care of notifying the ferry operator for all scheduled hikes organized through the conference.

BAXTER STATE PARK

Some of you may want to hike Katahdin, the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail, and visit Baxter State Park before or after the conference (due to travel distance from Colby College, there will be no scheduled conferences hikes). Please keep in mind that August is the busiest month in Baxter State Park. Every Katahdin trailhead parking area has a set capacity. Once the parking lots reach capacity, they are closed to further visitors that day. In order to ensure access to a trailhead, you will need a Day Use Parking permit, even if you plan on hiking midweek. Day use parking permits are available starting April 1 for Maine residents and up to two weeks prior to your scheduled hike for non-residents. You can reserve day use parking permits online at baxterstateparkauthority.com. Non-Katahdin trailheads in the park are first come first serve.

If you would like to stay overnight in the Park, you can make a reservation up to four months from the date of your intended stay. You can make your reservation online or by calling the Park at (207) 723-5140. The Birches is for current long distance hikers only and is not part of the reservation system.

Katahdin is a uniquely challenging mountain to hike. The mountain's trails, including the Hunt Trail/ A.T., are very strenuous and pass through exposed boulder scrambles. The summit area experiences extreme weather even in summer. If you decide to hike the mountain, please plan and adhere to a turn around time, bring a map and first aid kit, carry plenty of water, food and layers, and bring a flashlight (required by Park rules) in case the hike takes longer than intended.

Please also keep in mind that the Tableland of Katahdin is home to the greatest number of threatened and endangered species in the State of Maine. The protection of these species depends on all visitors to practice good outdoor ethics while hiking through this fragile habitat. Please remember to stay on trail, leave no trace of your presence, and encourage other visitors to do the same. Your efforts will make a difference and help to protect the rare species of Katahdin.

For more information, please visit Baxter State Park's website at baxterstateparkauthority.com.

THEME HIKES	Saturday 8/5	Sunday 8/6	Monday 8/7	Tuesday 8/8	Wednesday 8/9	Thursday 8/10
After-hike Winery	09	09 31 66	22 31	09 31	22 31	31
Coastal Views	05 09	02 09 22 29 31	05 22 29 31	02 09 21 29 31	05 22 31	21 29 31
History	41	41 42 56	42 56	42 56	34	56
Nature	01 04 07 12 14 23	07 12 14 23	01 04 07 12 14	04 07 14 23	01 04 23	07 12 14 23
Sunset Hike			H0704	H0804		



GUIDED HIKES TABLE LEGEND

Unique hike number (01-62, 65-66)

Hike Name, Time, Cost, Description, Theme Hike Leader (if applicable)

Each hike notes estimated total time from campus back to campus. For after-hike restaurant or winery add at least 1 hour. Of course we cannot be responsible for unforeseen problems and late returns to campus. Description includes requirements and difficulty and suggested amount each hiker should pay driver for gas. Parking & entrance fees are not included and should be shared by all if applicable.

Hike Length (miles)

Ascent (in feet)

Drive time To Trailhead

Estimated 1 way Google map driving time (not miles) from campus (plus shuttle if applicable) to trailhead.

Date/Time

H=hike; 1st 2 digits=departure date; last 2 digits=hike #; 2nd line #=departure time.

Example

H0501 1100 = Hike #01 leaves Saturday, August 5th at 11:00 AM – arrive at departure area by 10:40 AM.

	HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive (hrs)	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
V	Non	A.T. Hikes									
	01	French Mountain Hike, French Mountain (716 Ft.) Rome 2.5 hours. Short and sweet hike with views of Long Pond, Great Pond, The Mountain and Belgrade Lakes Village. \$4/carpool fee. Will be combined with Hike #4 Mount Phillip.	.8	166	.5	H0501 1100		H0701 1800		H0901 1100	
	02	Mount Waldo Hike , Mount Waldo (1064 Ft.) 4.5 hours. Mount Waldo is notable from around Penobscot Bay as a huge white coastal dome. On a clear day at the summit, you can see far out in the ocean, far west into central Maine, even Mt. Katahdin to the north on an exceptionally clear day. \$10/carpool fee.	.8	564	1.25		H0602 1100		H0802 1100		
	03	Monument Hill Hike , Monument Hill (660 Ft.) Leeds 3 hours. Offers nice views of surrounding farms, rivers and lakes. A granite obelisk on summit is dedicated to Leeds soldiers and sailors of Civil War. \$9/ carpool fee. Will be combined with Hike #6 Mount Pisgah.	1.0	210	1	H0503 1100	H0603 1100	H0703 1100			
	04	Mount Philip Hike , Mount Phillip (755 Ft.) Rome 3 hours. Overlooks Great Pond, one of the Belgrade Lakes. Good views to the west from summit as well.\$4/carpool fee. Possible sunset hike. Will be combined with Hike #1 French Mountain.	1.4	405	.5	H0504 1100		H0704 1800	H0804 1830	H0904 1100	
	05	Beech Hill Hike , Beech Hill (530 Ft.) Rockport. 5 hours. Using Summit Road Trail with views of Camden Hills and islands of Penobscot Bay reach summit with Beech Nut, a historical sod roofed stone hut. Blueberry fields provide alfresco snacking. \$10/carpool fee.	1.5	180	1.25	H0505 0830		H0705 0900		H0905 0900	
ei P	06	Mount Pisgah Hike , Mount Pisgah (809 Ft.) Winthrop 4 hours. 60 foot fire tower on summit affording excellent views to Presidential Range in neighboring New Hampshire. \$9/carpool fee. Will be combined with Hike #3 Monument Hill.	2	359	1	H0506 1100	H0606 1100	H0706 1100		H0906 0900	
	07	Perham Stream Birding Trail Hike, Perham Stream Birding Trail 7 hours. The Perham Stream Birding Trail, created in 2012 in partnership with a private landowner, is a quiet, 2.4 mile (four loop) interpretative trail for all ages and abilities to enjoy, and is home to over 100 species of North American birds. Along the Perham Stream in an area known as the "Intervale," the trail meanders through the Sandy River watershed where fertile soils first attracted settlers in the early 1800s to farm the land. There are five birding "sub-habitats" along the trail, including field, alder thicket with hardwood wetland, mixed-wood forest dominated with hardwood, mixed wood with stream, and field/stream edges. Excellent views of nearby Saddleback Mountain and Mount Abraham. Perham Farm Homestead Museum nearby. Owner Carson Hinckley offers free tours. \$10/carpool fee.	2.4	100	1.5	H0507 0730	H0607 0730	H0707 0830	H0807 0830		H1007 0830
	08	Sugarloaf Dixfield Hike, Sugarloaf Mountain (1521 Ft.) Dixfield 5 hours. Good views for minimal effort. Trail to northern summit includes side trip to Bull Rock with nice views of Dixfield. \$10/carpool fee.	2.2	669	1	H0508 0800		H0708 0830			
1	09	Mount Battie Hike, Mount Battie (800 Ft.) Camden 6 hours. Hike is via the Carriage Road Trail (from ME 52) and Tableland Trail. Outstanding views of Camden village and the coast. In 1897, a toll road was built to the summit, and a hotel named the Summit House as built. The toll road remains but the hotel was torn down in 1920. A stone observation tower -a World War I memorial-was built in its place in 1921. Visit to nearby winery after hike. \$10/carpool fee.	2.4	600	1.25	H0509 0730	H0609 0800		H0809 0830		
	10	The Mountain Hike , The Mountain (665 Ft.) Rome 3 hours. Located on ridge between Long Pond and Great Pond. Loops provide viewpoints with great views of both ponds as well as Kennebec Highlands to the west.\$4/carpool fee.	2.5	315	.5	H0510 1100		H0710 1100		H0910 1100	
	11	Little Wilson Falls Hike, Little Wilson Falls Elliottsville Plantation 2.6 miles RT 7.5 hours. 57 foot waterfall in slate canyon. The trail is rough in places with slippery roots and rocks. Includes .3 mile on A.T. to get to falls. Several viewpoints into gorge before reaching falls. \$10/carpool fee. Will be combined with Borestone Mountain Sanctuary Hike #17.	7	1531	1.5		H0611 0800	H0711 0800			H1011 0800

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HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
12	Sanders Hill Hike, Sanders Hill (854 Ft.) Rome 4 hours. Good views of Watson Pond from ridge and picnic table in mid stream on new trail section after leaving summit. Interesting walk.\$4/carpool fee.	2.9	404	.5	H0512 1100	H0612 1100	H0712 1100			H1012 1100
13	Rotary Trail Hike , Rotary Centennial Trail/East Kennebec Trail 2-4 hours. 3 miles (6 miles round trip) car spotting required for one way trip. No significant elev. Gain. RCT is a very level, wide trail with a packed surface. Constructed along an old rail bed, it leads through beautiful hardwoods with occasional views of the river. The trail ends at the former rail bridge abutment that extends out in the river, providing a scenic resting or picnic spot. East Kennebec Trail continues from RCT, the gravel and grassy trail passes through a wooded wetland and a wide open stretch with safe river access. There are also open fields to explore up the eastern slope to Benton Avenue. \$1/carpool fee.	3	10	.25	H0513 0900	H0613 1100	H0713 1000	H0813 1300	H0913 1000	
14	Roundtop Mountain Hike , Roundtop Mountain (1133 Ft.) Rome 5 hours. The 2nd highest point in the Kennebec Highlands. Good views of Belgrade Lakes and pleasant hike through mixed forest. Evidence of early farming found along trail.\$4/carpool fee.	3.3	550	.5	H0514 1100	H0614 1100	H0714 1100	H0814 1100		H1014 1100
15	Mount Blue Hike, Mount Blue (3190 Ft.) Weld Maine 7 hours. Observation tower on summit provides fine views including Saddleback Mountain and The Horn, Mount Abraham, Spaulding and Sugarloaf Mountains, the Presidential range in New Hampshire, the Carters and Mahoosucs as well as Bald Mountain closer at hand. \$10/carpool fee. State Park entrance fee.	3.4	1840	1.5	H0515 0730	H0615 0900	H0715 0900		H0915 0900	
16	Whitten Hill Hike , Whitten Hill (865 Ft.) 5 hours. Appleton, ME. Northern Headwater Loop Climbs Whitten Hill and follows along Sheepscot River. Lots of old foundations and stone walls. \$5/per person.	3.4	115	.75	H0516 0900	H0616 0900		H0816 0900		
17	Borestone Mountain Hike , Borestone Mountain (1981 Ft.) Elliottsville Plantation/ Borestone Mountain Sanctuary. 7.5 hours. 4 miles round trip. 360 degree views from 2 peaks which are reached via Base and Summit Trails. Robert T. Moore Visitors Center features wildlife displays and information on history of mountain. Three small ponds can be seen from trail and one, Sunrise Pond is accessible. Small user fee (\$5/person) charged by Maine Audubon which owns and manages the sanctuary. \$10/carpool fee. Will be combined with Little Wilson Falls Hike #11.	7	1531	1.5		H0617 0800	H0717 0800			H1017 0800
18	Hogback Mountain Hike, Hogback Mountain (1115 Ft.) 6 hours. 4.1 miles 500 elev gain. The Hogback Mountain trail in Montville, Maine takes hikers past the gigantic glacial erratic known as "piano rock," through a young beech forest, and up a 50-foot cliff with tiny cascading waterfalls. \$6/carpool fee.	4.1	500	1	H0518 0730	H0618 0800		H0818 0930		
19	Rumford Whitecap Mtn. Hike , Rumford Whitecap (2214 Ft.) 9 hours. The 751 acre Rumford Whitecap Preserve in Rumford is a conservation property that includes the bald summit and south slopes of Rumford Whitecap Mountain which offers panoramic views and plenty of blueberries in season. \$10/carpool fee.	5	1364	1.6		H0619 0700	H0719 0700	H0819 0730		
20	Blueberry Mountain Hike , Blueberry Mountain (2962 Ft.) 6 hours. Bare summit with interesting geological formations and views in all directions. Will be combined with Bald/Saddleback Wind hike with lunch break between hikes. \$10/carpool fee.	5	1650	1.25	H0520 0700	H0620 0700	H0720 0800			H1020 0800
	Beach Island/Penobscot Bay Hike, Penobscot Bay Beach Island is a 75 acre island roughly in the middle of Penobscot Bay with good views of the Camden Hills and a sliver of hilltop in Acadia National Park. Were it not for Mt Waldo we might even be able to see the summit of Katahdin but who knows. We are four miles due south from Cape Rosier, four miles from Isleboro and 12 miles due east of Camden.							H0821		H1021
21	The island traces its ownership back to Cotton Tufts in 1797 and was inhabited year round through the last half of the 1800s. It has been in Rhodes family since 1915 and we are now down to fifth cousins sharing a total of six houses. There are several distinct mini ecosystems playing host to eagles, osprey and the occasional seal. Leader Carrington Rhodes will lead tour of the island with emphasis on history and natural features and creatures. \$10/carpool fee. Limited to 10 participants. 2 hour boat ride each way. 10-11 hours.	5	100	1				0630		0700
22	Cameron/Bald Rock Mountain Hike, Cameron Mountain (811 Ft.) / Bald Rock Mountain (1100 FT.) Lincolnville 6 hours. Pleasant walk through old farmland to summit with commercial blueberry fields - please stay on trail. From the top of Bald Rock Mountain there are views of Penobscot Bay which many regard as the best in Camden Hills State Park. Hike starts at Multi-use Trail trailhead and ends at Cellardoor winery nearby. State Park entrance fee. \$10/carpool-bus fee.	5.2	1500	1.25		H0622 1100	H0722 1100		H0922 1100	
23	Messalonskee Stream Trail Hike, Hike the Messalonskee Stream Trail. \$2/carpool fee. 3 hours. 2.5 one way or 5 miles out and back. The trail crosses several footbridges, providing a nice walk through hemlock and pine forests with stunning views of Messalonskee Stream. Follow the trail around a peninsula, up to the power line and along it until you reach the dam access road to Rice Rips Road. There is lots of history at the southern end of the trail. The parking area is on the foundations of an axe factory that gave Oakland its nickname "Axe Capital of the World". The trail leaves the parking area through a gap in a chain link fence. Check out a yellow penstock pipe on the west side of the stream. It takes water to the castellated hydropower station, which was one of Central Maine Power's first. This waterfall (once called "Cascade Falls") is where CMP got started, as Oakland Electric Company.	5	100	.25	H0523 0900	H0623 1100		H0823 1100	H0923 0900	H1023 0900
24	Burnt Mountain Hike , Burnt Mountain (3600 Ft.) 7 hours. Excellent views of Bigelow Range, Sugarloaf and Spaulding Mountains and the Mount Abraham range from summit. Trail passes through glade skiing area recently cut by nearby Sugarloaf Mountain ski area. \$10/carpool fee.	5.6	1850	1.5	H0524 0700	H0624 0700	H0724 0730			

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100	KE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	8/5	8/6	8/7	Tue 8/8	8/9	8/10
2	!5	Bald/Saddleback Wind Mountains Hike, Bald Mountain(2370 Ft.)/Saddleback Wind (2600 Ft.) Weld/Carthage Maine 8 hours 6 miles with 1.5 miles containing 1320 elevation gain to Bald Mountain. Another 1.37 mi. to summit of Saddleback Wind (Wind farm turbines along nearby ridge). Excellent views in all directions at summits. \$10/carpool fee. Will be combined with Blueberry Mtn. Hike (20).	6	1700	1.25	H0525 0700	H0625 0700	H0725 0800			
2	!6	Tumbledown Mountain Hike, Tumbledown Mountain (3068 Ft.) Weld Maine Loop hike via Brook, Tumbledown Ridge and Parker Ridge Trails plus Little Jackson Connector Trail. 9 hours. Loop includes summit of Tumbledown Mountain passes by Tumbledown Pond, an alpine tarn. Views of Swift River Valley from summit as well as Old Blue and Elephant Mountains. \$10/carpool fee.	6.2	1550	1.5		H0626 0730		H0826 0730		H1026 0730
2	.7	Quarry Road Hikes, Quarry Road Recreation Area Hike/Walk trails at Quarry Road Recreation Area. Various trails are only 5 minutes from Colby College campus. 1-3 hours. Trails include River and Meadows Trails rated easiest North Koons Competition Trail rated more difficult and South Koons Competition Trail rated more difficult and South Koons Competition Trail rated most difficult. Also hike to Devil's Chair via Inner Far Meadow Trail. Great views abound of Messalonskee Stream on one side, the steep hillside on the other and impressive woodlands throughout. \$1/carpool fee.	6.5	350	.1	H0527 1100		H0727 1300	H0827 1100	H0927 1300	
2	!8	Tumbledown Mountain Hike, Tumbledown Mountain (3068 FT.) Weld Maine Circuit hike via Loop, Tumbledown Ridge and Parker Ridge Trails plus Little Jackson Connector Trail. 9 hours. Loop includes summit of Tumbledown Mountain passes by Tumbledown Pond, an alpine tarn. Views of Swift River Valley from summit as well as Old Blue and Elephant Mountains. Loop Trail requires rock scrambling, navigating a narrow fissure cave and use of iron rungs to aid in ascent. Strenuous. \$10/carpool fee.	6.6	1550	1.5			H0728 1930		H0928 0730	
2	!9	Bald/Ragged Mtn. Hike, Bald Mountain (1280 Ft.)/ Ragged Mountain (1300 Ft.) Rockport. 8 hours. Hugh cairn at summit of Bald and great views of Penobscot Bay, the Camden Hills as well as White Mountains of NH from summit of Ragged Mtn.	8	1800	1.25		H0629 0800	H0729 0800	H0829 0800		H1029 0800
3	80	Little Jackson Mountain Hike, Little Jackson Mountain (3470 Ft.) Weld Maine Out and back hike via Little Jackson Connector and Little Jackson Trail. 10 hours. Scenic route with many fine views. Moderate. \$10/carpool fee.	8.8	2360	1.5		H0630 0700	H0730 0730	H0830 0730		
3	3 1	Camden Hills Traverse Hike, Camden Hills Traverse Spectacular ocean views from at least 3 spots along this route which includes Mount Battie (800 Ft.), Ocean Lookout on the Tableland Trail, Mount Megunticook (1385 Ft.) 2nd highest peak on East Coast of US, Maiden Cliff (700 Ft.) and Cameron Mountain (811 Ft.) Bald Rock Mountain (1100 Ft.) (spectacular views of Penobscot Bay) loop may be substituted in place of Maiden Cliff loop at leader's discretion. Hike ends at Cellardoor winery nearby. 8 hours. 9.2 miles. Transportation by bus only. State Park entrance fee. \$10/bus fee.	9.2	1995	1.25			H0731 0730	H0831 0730	H0931 0730	H1031 0730
6	56	Camden Hills Mini Traverse, Spectacular views of Lake Megunticook along this route which includes Maiden Cliff (700 Ft.) with iron cross commemorating death of Elenora French, who fell to her death here in 1862 at 11 years of age and Cameron Mountain (811 Ft.) noted for plentiful blueberries in season. Hike ends at Cellardoor winery nearby. 8 hours. Transportation by bus only. \$10/bus fee.	5	1100	1.25		H0666 1000				
3	32	Mount Abraham Hike, Mount Abraham (4049 Ft.) Mount Abraham Twp. 10.5 hours. Hike via the Firewarden's Trail accessed from Kingfield. Above treeline 350 acre alpine zone is 2nd largest in Maine. Mount Abraham has an impressive ridgeline that extends for 4.5 miles and consists of 7-8 peaks ranging from 3400 to more than 4000 feet. \$10/carpool fee.	10	2901	1.25		H0632 0630	H0732 0630			
3	33	Frye Mountain Hike , Frye Mountain (1139 Ft.) 8 hours. The Frye Mountain section of the Georges Highland Path is located in Montville, ME, within the 5,240-acre state-owned Frye Mountain Wildlife Management Area. This "lollipop" trail passes through mixed and coniferous forests, parallels a wonderful stretch of Bartlett Stream, the northern-most feeder stream of the St. George River, and crosses Frye's summit at 1,139 feet. \$6/carpool fee.	10.2	589	1	H0533 0700	H0633 0700	H0733 0730	H0833 0730	H0933 0730	
6	55	Western Mountains Photography Mobile Workshop/Hike, Bigelow Preserve & Flagstaff Lake. 8 hours. 3-4 miles of relatively flat hiking. Carpool to hike leader's gallery (Schoolhouse Gallery, 266 Main Street, Kingfield, ME www.schoolhouseartgallery.com) for a briefing and orientation. Short drives and relatively flat woods walks to work on landscape photography skills at a variety of viewpoints and sites. Locations on Penobscot Tribal land and State Preserve Land will offer striking photo opportunities of streams, woods, the Bigelow range and Flagstaff Lake. Individual collaboration and critiques will be offered. Bring your photo equipment (All image capturing devices are welcome) along for short walks where you can capture stunning views from Maine's Woods with the expert guidance of landscape photographer, John Orcutt. \$10/carpool fee.	4	100	1.25				H0865 0800		H1065 0800
Α	.T. S	lower Paced Hikes (Hike# suffix N = Northbound, S = Southbound)								
3	34	A.T./Buck Hill Hike plus Slate Quarry Tour, A.T. near Monson including Buck Hill (1400 Ft.) from Pleasant Street to Route 15 and beginning of 100 Mile Wilderness section of A.T Car spotting required. Visit slate quarries nearby and learn history of slate product manufacturing in past and still ongoing. Combines hike and guided tour of slate industry in Monson. 10 hours. 15 person limit. \$10/carpool fee.	3	400	1.5					H0934 0730	
3	35	A.T./Pleasant Pond Mountain Hike, A.T./Pleasant Pond Mountain. 3.5 miles RT. 6 hours. A.T. hike from hiker parking near Pleasant Pond to summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain and return. Open ledges offer fine views in all directions. \$10/carpool fee.	3.5	1250	1.5	H0535 0730	H0635 0900	H0735 0900	H0835 0830	H0935 0830	

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HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
36	A.T./Rt. 4 to Piazza Rock Hike, A.T./Route 4 to Piazza Rock Lean-to and return with visit to nearby Smalls Falls scenic roadside attraction. 8.5 hours. 4 mi. rt. /250 Ft. elev. Gain. Hike on A.T. to Piazza Rock campsite. Piazza Rock formed by granite blocks balanced on each other. Also privy is a two holer with cribbage board between the seats and "Your Move" nameplate. Return to trailhead and travel short distance by car to Smalls Falls, scenic waterfalls (7 in all). \$10/carpool fee.	4	450	1.5	H0536 0700	H0636 0900	H0736 0900	H0836 0900		H1036 0900
37N	A.T./E. Flagstaff Rd. to MHT Flagstaff Hut-NB, A.T./Hike to Maine Huts and Trails Flagstaff Lake Hut from East Flagstaff Road. 7 hours. Trail follows along shore of Flagstaff Lake on A.T. and then MHT Hemlock Trail through beautiful forest. Lunch available at hut or bring your own to have on shore of lake. Great views of Bigelow Mountain range, Flagstaff Lake and surrounding area. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	6.6	200	1.5	H0537N 0730	H0637N 0830		H0837N 0830		
375	A.T./MHT Flagstaff Hut to E. Flagstaff RdSB, A.T./Hike from Maine Huts and Trails Flagstaff Lake Hut from Long Falls Dam Road and then to East Flagstaff Road. 7 hours. Follows trail from Long Falls Dam Road parking lot to Flagstaff Hut and then south along shore of Flagstaff Lake on MHT Hemlock Trail through beautiful forest joining A.T. to East Flagstaff Road. Lunch available at hut or bring your own to have on shore of lake. Great views of Bigelow Mountain range, Flagstaff Lake and surrounding area. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	6.6	250	1.5	H0537S 0730	H0637S 0830		H0837S 0830		
38	A.T./Long Falls Dam Rd W.Carry Pond, A.T./Long Fall Dam Road to West Carry Pond and return. Eat lunch at lean-to near shore of pond and possible swim there as well. Visit nearby Arnold (Benedict Arnold) Point. Arnold Trail intersects A.T. on this section. Significant historical area. 8.5 hours, \$10/carpool fee.	6	600	1.75		H0638 0730	H0738 0800	H0838 0800		
39	A.T./Route 17 to Route 4, A.T./Route 17 to Sabbathday Pond lean-to and return. 10.5 hours. Spruce Mountain, Bates Ledge, small sand beach on NE shore of Long Pond suitable for swimming. Moderate. \$10/carpool fee.	7	450	2		H0639 0700		H0839 0700		
40N	A.T./Haul Road to Caratunk Hike -NB, A.T./Haul Road to Pierce Pond Lean-To and Kennebec River Ferry (Caratunk). 8 hours. Key Swap. Travel north on A.T. from Haul Road climbing Bates Ridge and then descending to Pierce Pond Lean-to, visit nearby classic Maine sporting camp, Harrison's Pierce Pond Camps, then continue hiking north along Pierce Pond Stream with many pools and small waterfalls. Cross Kennebec River via A.T. Ferry Service (canoe) and arrive at ME route 201 and trailhead parking. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	8	350	1.5	H0540N 0700		H0740N 0700	H0840N 0700	H0940N 0700	H1040N 0700
40S	A.T./Caratunk to Haul Road Hike -SB, A.T./Caratunk to Pierce Pond Lean-To and Haul Road via Kennebec River Ferry. 8 hours. Key swap. Travel south on A.T. first by crossing the Kennebec River via the A.T. Ferry Service (canoe) and then hiking 3.7 miles to the Pierce Pond Lean-To for lunch and possible swim in pond. Visit nearby classic Maine sporting camp, Harrison's Pierce Pond Camps then hike south to road crossing and parking area. A.T. follows Pierce Pond Stream with many pools and small waterfalls. Leaving Pierce Pond shelter SB trail climbs Bates Ridge and then descends to Haul Road and trailhead parking. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	8	1000	1.5	H0540S 0700		H0740S 0700	H0840S 0700	H0940S 0700	H1040S 0700
41	A.T./Heritage Hike-Arnold Trail to W Carry Pond, Heritage Hiking along the original route of the Appalachian Trail in Maine. In the steps of Benedict Arnold's army of invasion (Quebec) in 1775. The first leg of the hike is on the route taken by Arnold's army and later used as the original A.T. (Dead River Route, 1933). It is now the orange-blazed Great Carrying Place Portage Trail developed by the Arnold Expedition Historical Society. The Great Carrying Place Portage Trail continues on the Spring Rd. with moderate ascent and passes Washington Spring at 1.5 mi. In 0.5 mi. turn right onto Boise Rd. and follow road for 0.2 mi. reaching junction with foot trail. Turn sharp right and enter woods. Road soon becomes a foot trail. At 3.2 mi. from the trailhead, cross stream and reach junction with current A.T. Turn left and descend on A.T. reaching shore of West Carry Pond (elev. 1300) in 0.1 mi. The Carry Pond lean-to is reached in another 0.3 mi., a great place for lunch. Retracing on the A.T., ascend moderately and pass the GCPPT in 0.4 mi. Continue south on A.T. ascending and slabbing the north slope (elev.2000) of Roundtop Mtn. Descend and in another 2.6 mi. cross Jerome Brook, site of the Jerome Brook lean-to built in 1938 by the CCC. In 0.1 mi. further, reach the Long Falls Dam Road where we will have spotted vehicles to shuttle back to trailhead. \$10/carpool fee.	7.6	1000	1.5	H0541 0630	H0641 0730				
42	A.T./Heritage Hike - Safford Brook Trail-Little Bigelow, Heritage Hiking along the original route of the Appalachian Trail in Maine. 10 hours. Follow the original route of the A.T. on the Safford Brook Trail. The 2 mile marker, a rock marking 2 miles from the original (1933) northern end of this section at Dead River village, now submerged in Flagstaff Lake. At 0.95 miles, The Cascades, "small but beautiful" (Myron Avery's description) series of falls, are to the west. Trail ascends to junction with A.T Turning north onto the A.T., the trail climbs 200 ft. over the next 1.8 miles to a viewpoint on the western end of Little Bigelow Mountain. Another viewpoint is reached at 0.6 mi., and another 0.3 mi. further near the summit at 3040 ft., with views south and west over Carrabassett Valley, to Sugarloaf Mountain and to Avery Peak. Descending steeply for 1.7 miles, a side trail to the Little Bigelow lean-to is passed. The last 1.4 miles descend more gradually to the East Flagstaff Road, where previously spotted vehicles will be parked for return to starting point. \$10/carpool fee.	8.2	1870	1.5		H0642 0730	H0742 0730	H0842 0630		

HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
A.T.	Faster Hikes (Hike# suffix N = Northbound, S = Southbound)									
43	A.T./Moxie Bald Mountain Hike, A.T./Moxie Bald Mountain (2630 Ft.) and North Peak and return. Moxie Bald Twp. 8 hours. 6.0 miles 1670 elev gain. Approach is via the A.T. Road off of the Troutdale Road. At approx 2.0 miles, the A.T. crosses this road with parking beside the road. Moxie Bald summit is approx. 2.0 miles north on A.T The summit is alpine in nature and views extend from Katahdin to the north to the Bigelows southward. Wild blueberries could provide an alfresco snack on this open summit. \$10/carpool fee.	6	1670	1.5	H0543 0800		H0743 0800	H0843 0800		
44	A.T./E. Flagstaff Road to Little Bigelow Mountain Hike, A.T./East Flagstaff Road to summit of Little Bigelow Mountain and return. 9 hours. Hike south on A.T. towards Bigelow Range to summit of Little Bigelow Mountain. Spectacular views of Carrabassett Valley including Bigelow Range, Sugarloaf, Crockers from open ledges. 1000 feet gain in last 2 miles to summit. Pass side trail to lean-to and swimming opportunity in "tubs" (pools in stream). \$10/carpool fee.	7	1750	1.75	H0544 0700		H0744 0730		H0944 0730	
45	A.T./Route 27 to Cranberry Pond Hike, A.T./Route 27 to Cranberry Pond and return. 9 hours. Leave parking lot on Route 27 hiking north on A.T., cross Stratton Brook on Dick Brown bridge, pass Cranberry Stream Campsite, at 3.2 miles bear left on Bigelow Range Trail, Cranberry Pond approx5 miles from junction. Views of Cranberry Peak and lovely alpine pond. \$10/carpool fee.	7	1250	1.5	H0545 0630		H0745 0730	H0845 0730		H1045 0730
46	A.T./Sugarloaf Mountain Hike, A.T./Sugarloaf Mountain (4250 Ft.) and return. Carrabassett Valley 9 hours. Hike from A.T. crossing of Caribou Valley Road south. 2nd highest mountain in Maine and most industrialized with ski area machinery and cell towers on summit. Still views are spectacular in all directions and A.T. used to cross this summit before relo. The number of peaks visible may be unequaled in the state except perhaps from Katahdin. \$10/carpool fee.	6	2000	1.5	H0546 0630	H0646 0700	H0746 0700	H0846 0700		
47	A.T./Barren Mountain Hike, A.T./Barren Mountain (2650 Ft.) and return. 10 hours. The highest of the five mountain peaks of the rugged Barren-Chairback Range and first mountain encountered hiking north in the 100 mile Wilderness. Barren Slide and Barren Ledges are excellent viewpoints overlooking Bodfish Intervale, Lake Onawa and Borestone Mtn. \$10/carpool fee.	7.6	2000	1.5		H0647 0700	H0747 0700	H0847 0700		
48N	A.T./Little Bigelow Mountain Hike, A.T./Little Bigelow (3070 Ft.) Dead River Twp. 9 hours. Loop hike with carspotting using A.T. and Safford Brook Trails. Leaving from East Flagstaff Road on Safford Brook Trail towards Safford Notch reach A.T. at 2.3 miles. Follow A.T. north to highest peak on Little Bigelow at 5.5 miles, trail passes Little Bigelow lean-to at 7.6 miles, East Flagstaff Road and previously spotted vehicles at 9 miles. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	9	1920	1.5		H0648N 0700		H0848N 0700		H1048N 0700
485	A.T./Little Bigelow Mountain Hike, A.T./Little Bigelow (3070 Ft.) Dead River Twp. Key Swap. 9 hours. Loop hike with carspotting using A.T. and Safford Brook Trails. Leaving from East Flagstaff Road on A.T. (south) ascend to Little Bigelow Mountain ridge passing side trail to lean-to at 1.4 miles and reaching summit at 3.5 miles. Continuing on arrive at Safford Notch at 6.7 miles. Hike east on Safford Brook Trail to E Flagstaff Rd. and trailhead parking. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	9	1750	1.5		H0648S 0700		H0848S 0700		H1048S 0700
49N	A.T./Monson(Rt. 15) to Little Wilson Falls Hike-NB, A.T./ Monson (Route 15) to Little Wilson Falls. Key Swap. 8 hours. Hike first few miles of the 100 Mile Wilderness section of A.T Pass Leeman Brook Lean-To. Leave A.T. at side trail to Little Wilson Falls, at 60 ft., it is one of the highest falls along the entire A.THike out side trail to Elliottsville Road and previously spotted vehicles. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	8	500	1.5	H0549N 0700	H0649N 0700	H0749N 0700	H0849N 0700		
495	Little Wilson Falls to Monson (Rt. 15) Hike-SB, A.T./ Little Wilson Falls to Monson(ME 15). Key Swap. 8 hours. Hike from Elliottsville Rd. on side trail to Little Wilson Falls, at 60 ft., one of the highest falls along the entire A.T. and then south on A.T. to ME 15 passing Leeman Brook Lean-to. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	8	750	1.5	H0549S 0700	H0649S 0700	H0749S 0700	H0849S 0700		
50N	A.T./Marble Brook to Monson (Pleasant St) Hike-NB, A.T./ Marble Brook to Pleasant Street in Monson, Key Swap. 8 hours. Beautiful river walk along West Branch of Piscataquis River. Access A.T. via Marble Brook Road, hike north to Pleasant Street in Monson, ford confluence of West Branch of Piscataquis River and Bald Mountain Stream, Horseshoe Canyon with slate outcroppings and later ford East Branch of the Piscataquis River before finishing hike on Pleasant Street in Monson passing along shore of Lake Hebron. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	9	350	1.5		H0650N 0700	H0750N 0700			
50\$	A.T./Monson (Pleasant St.) to Marble Brook Hike-SB, A.T./ Pleasant Street in Monson to Marble Brook, Key Swap. 8 hours. Beautiful river walk along West Branch of Piscataquis River. Access A.T. via Pleasant St. in Monson, hike south along shore of Lake Hebron, cross paved Shirley/Blanchard Rd. ford East Branch of the Piscataquis River, pass side trail to Horse Canyon Lean-to. Continuing hike along rim of Horseshoe Canyon with slate outcroppings, ford confluence of West Branch of Piscataquis and Bald Mountain Stream (can be challenging in high water). In another half mile leave A.T. on Marble Brook jeep road and hike to Breakneck Ridge Road and trailhead parking. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	9	375	1.5		H0650S 0700	H0750N 0700			
51N	A.T./Bigelow Range Trail Hike - Northbound, A.T./Bigelow Range Trail - Route 27 to Stratton via Bigelow Range Trail and A.T., Key Swap, 9 hours. Leave parking lot on ME 27 hiking north on A.T Take Bigelow Range Trail at 3.2 miles, ascend Cranberry Peak, with spectacular views of Carrabasset Valley including the Bigelow Range. Ridge walk with views of Flagstaff Lake, then descend to trailhead on Curry Road in Stratton. Pass Arnold's Well and The Cave during descent. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	8	2000	1.5	H0551N 0630	H0651N 0730	H0751N 0700	H0851N 0700		

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HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
51S	A.T./Bigelow Range Trail Hike - Southbound, A.T./Bigelow Range Trail - Stratton to Maine Route 27 via Bigelow Range Trail and A.T., Key Swap, 9 hours. Leave parking lot on Curry Road on Bigelow Range Trail, pass Arnold's well, the Cave and reach Cranberry Peak at 2.9 miles, spectacular views of Carrabasset Valley including the Bigelow Range. Descend to Cranberry Pond and junction with A.T. at 4.9 miles. Hike south on A.T. to Route 27 and previously spotted vehicles. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	8	2000	1.5	H0551S 0630	H0651S 0730	H0751S 0700	H0851S 0700		
52N	A.T./Caratunk to Moxie Pond Road Hike-NB, A.T./Caratunk to Moxie Pond Road, Key Swap. 9 hours. Follow Holly Brook, pass Pleasant Pond Lean-to with side trail to sand beach on Pleasant Pond, ascend to summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain (2480ft.) (1000 feet elev. gain in 1 mile), fine views in all directions, pass through beautiful old-growth spruce and fir forest, finish on Moxie Pond Road. Key Swap. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	12	1900	1.5	H0552N 0630		H0752N 0630		H0952N 0630	
52\$	A.T./Caratunk to Moxie Pond Road Hike-SB, A.T./Moxie Pond Road to Caratunk, Key Swap. 9 hours. Hike south from Moxie Pond Road toward Pleasant Pond Mountain summit passing through beautiful old-growth spruce and fir forest. Fine views in all directions from summit (2480 ft.) Descend with views of Pleasant Pond to lean-to with side trail to pond with sand beach. Continue south bound following Holly Brook to trailhead parking on ME 201 in Caratunk. Key Swap. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound	12	1500	1.5	H0552S 0630		H0752S 0630		H0952S 0630	
53N	A.T./ME 17 to ME4 Hike - Northbound, A.T./Maine route 17 to Maine route 4. Key Swap. 10.5 hours. Hike north on A.T. from "Height of Land' to Sabbath Day Pond lean-to, Little Swift River Pond campsite and route 4. Moderate. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	13	500	2		H0653N 0630	H0753N 0630			
53\$	A.T./ME 17 to ME4 Hike - Southbound, A.T./Maine route 4 to Maine route 17. Key Swap. 10.5 hours. Hike south on A.T. from to Little Swift River Pond campsite, Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to and "Height of Land" at route 17. Moderate. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	13	1100	2		H0653S 0630	H0753S 0630			
54N	A.T./ME 4 to Saddleback Peak Hike - Northbound, A.T./Maine route 4 to Saddleback Peak Key Swap. 10.5 hours. Very strenuous. Drive to A.T. crossing on Maine route 4 to start trip. Pass Piazza Rock lean-to, scenic Ethel and Eddy Ponds. Spectacular views from bald summit of Saddleback. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	11.4	2600	1.75		H0654N 0630	H0754N 0630	H0854N 0630		
54S	A.T./Saddleback Peak to ME 4 Hike - Southbound, A.T./Saddleback Peak to Maine route 4. Key Swap. 10.5 hours. Very strenuous. Drive to Saddleback Ski Area to start trip. Climb to A.T. using ski trails. Hike south from Saddleback summit passing scenic Ethel and Eddy Ponds and Piazza Rock lean-to and on to route 4. Spectacular views from bald summit of Saddleback. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	11.4	2000	1.75		H0654S 0630	H0754S 0630	H0854S 0630		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
A.T.	RESTRICTED Section Hikes: Very fast paced difficult hikes for fit, experi	enced lor	ng distanc	e hikers.	(Hike# su	ffix N = No	orthbound,	S = Southk	oound)	į
55N	A.T./North/South Crocker Mountains Hike-NB, A.T./North/South Crocker Mountains. Key Swap. 9 hours. Drive in on Caribou Valley Road and hike north on A.T. to summits of South Crocker (4050ft) (best views) and North Crocker (4228ft) Mountains then descend to ME 27. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	8.5	2100	1.5		H0655N 0700	H0755N 0700		H0955N 0700	
55S	A.T./North/South Crocker Mountains Hike-SB, A.T./North/South Crocker Mountains. Key Swap. 9 hours. Leave from parking lot on Maine Route 27 near A.T. crossing. Hike south on A.T. to summits of North(4228ft) and South Crocker(4050ft) (best views) Mountains then descend to Crocker Cirque Campsite and Caribou Valley Road. Road walk back to spotted vehicle on CVR. Drive to parking lot on route 27 to other vehicles. \$10/carpool fee. One Way Drive. Southbound.	8.5	2800	1.5		H0655S 0700	H0755S 0700		H0955S 0700	
56N	A.T. 80th Anniversary Hike/Perham Stream to Caribou Valley Rd., A.T./ Perham Stream to Caribou Valley Road. Key Swap. 9 hours. A.T. hike from Perham Stream over Lone Mountain to Spaulding Mtn. to Sugarloaf Mtn via side trail and return to A.T. and on to Caribou Valley Rd. Pass bronze plaque commemorating the completion of the last section of A.T. from ME to GA. From Sugarloaf views are spectacular in all directions and A.T. used to cross this summit before relo. The number of peaks visible may be unequaled in the state except perhaps from Katahdin. \$10/carpool/van fee. Northbound.	12	2200	1.5		H0656N 0700	H0756N 0700	H0856N 0700		H1056N 0700
56S	A.T. 80th Anniversary Hike/Caribou Valley Road to Perham Stream, A.T./ Caribou Valley Road to Perham Stream. Key Swap. 9 hours. A.T. hike from Caribou Valley Road to Sugarloaf Mtn via side trail and return to A.T. and on to Perham Stream hiking by Spaulding Mountain and over Lone Mountain. Pass bronze plaque commemorating the completion of the last section of A.T. from ME to GA. From Sugarloaf views are spectacular in all directions and A.T. used to cross this summit before relo. The number of peaks visible may be unequaled in the state except perhaps from Katahdin. \$10/carpool/van fee. One Way Drive. Southbound.	12	2500	1.5		H0656S 0700	H0756S 0700	H0856S 0700		H1056N 0700
57N	A.T./Bigelows from ME 27 to E. Flagstaff Road-NB, A.T./The Bigelows Hike from Maine route 27 north on A.T. to Horn's Pond, Key Swap. S Horn, West Peak, Avery Peak, Old Man's Head and Safford Notch and out to East Flagstaff Road via Safford Brook Trail. 10 Hours. Very Strenuous. A.T. Restricted Hike. Key Swap. \$10/carpool fee. Northbound.	12.5	3000	1.5		H0657N 0630	H0757N 0600		H0957N 0630	
575	A.T./Bigelows from E. Flagstaff Rd. to ME 27-SB, A.T./The Bigelows Hike from East Flagstaff Road via Safford Brook Trail to Safford Notch on A.T. South to Old Man's Head, Avery Peak, West Peak, S Horn, Horns Pond and on to ME 27. Key Swap. 10 Hours. Very Strenuous. A.T. Restricted Hike. \$10/carpool fee. Southbound.	12.5	3100	1.5		H0657S 0630	H0757S 0600		H0957S 0630	

3	HIKE #	HIKE TITLE, ESTIMATED TOTAL TIME, DRIVING COST, DESCRIPTION	Hike Miles	Ascent in Feet	1 Way Drive	Sat 8/5	Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thur 8/10
	58	A.T./Bigelow Mountain Hike, A.T./Bigelow Mountain - Avery (4088 FT.), West (4145 Ft.) Peaks, South (3805 Ft.)and North (3792 Ft.) Horns via Firewarden's and Horns Pond Trails. 10 hours. 14 mile loop hike. Ascend Firewarden's Trail (4.7 miles/2350 elev. Gain) to Bigelow Col. Hike north to Avery Peak and then turn back south to col and on to West Peak, North and South Horns and Horns Pond campsite. Take Horns Pond Trail to lower Firewardens Trail and out to trailhead. 360 degree views into Canada to north, to Katahdin to northeast and both north and south along A.T. for many miles. Shorter but steeper access to summit Only extremely fit experienced long-distance hikers are qualified for this hike. \$10/carpool fee. A.T. restricted hike.	14	3500	1.5		H0658 0630	H0758 0600	H0858 0600		H1058 0630
古一人と言い	59	A.T./Perham Stream to Mount Abraham Hike, A.T./Perham Stream to Mount Abraham and return. 11 hours, strenuous. 1.5 mile road walk on gravel road to A.T. from nearest parking. Ascend Lone Mountain north on A.T Take side trail to Mount Abraham (1.7 miles to summit from A.T.) (Mount Abraham has an impressive ridgeline that extends for about 4.5 mi. consisting of 8 peaks giving it an alpine appearance) and return to A.T. and hike back south to Perham Stream Road crossing and road walk back to vehicles. \$10/carpool fee.	11	1800	1.75		H0659 0630	H0759 0630	H0859 0630		
	60N	A.T./ME 4 to Perham Stream Hike-Northbound, A.T./Maine route 4 to Perham Stream. Key Swap. 14 hours. Very strenuous. Pass shelter at Piazza Rock, scenic Ethel and Eddy Ponds, at 5 miles reach treeline and ascend to Saddleback summit views in all directions out to 50 miles or more on clear day, then on to The Horn, Saddleback Junior, Poplar Ridge lean-to and Oberton Stream. Road walk to vehicles after leaving A.T. (1.5 miles). Only extremely fit experienced long distance hikers are qualified for this trip. \$10/carpool fee. Restricted A.T. hike. Northbound.	17	3800	2		H0660N 0600		H0860N 0600		
世紀として	60\$	A.T./ME 4 to Perham Stream Hike-Southbound, A.T./Maine route 4 to Perham Stream. Key Swap. 14 hours. Very strenuous. Pass shelter at Piazza Rock, scenic Ethel and Eddy Ponds, at 5 miles reach treeline and ascend to Saddleback summit views in all directions out to 50 miles or more on clear day, then on to The Horn, Saddleback Junior, Poplar Ridge lean-to and Oberton Stream. Road walk to vehicles after leaving A.T. (1.5 miles). Only extremely fit experienced long distance hikers are qualified for this trip. \$10/carpool fee. Restricted A.T. hike. Northbound.	17	3600	2		H0660S 0600		H0860S 0600		
	Back	spack Hikes									
表演と	61	A.T./W Carry Pond Lean-to Backpack, A.T. Backpack/ West Carry Pond Lean-to. Hike on A.T. from Long Falls Dam Road to lean-to on W Carry Pond. Spend night. Hike north on A.T. to Main Haul Road beyond East Carry Pond. Swimming in both ponds possible. Historic area of Benedict Arnold's route to Quebec in 1775. \$10/carpool fee.	9.3	650	2		H0661 0900		H0861 0900		
	62	A.T./Bigelows Backpack, A.T. Backpack/ The Bigelow Range Hike from Maine route 27 north on A.T. to Horn's Pond, S Horn, West Peak. Camp at Bigelow Col campsite. Continue to Avery Peak, Old Man's Head and Safford Notch and out to East Flagstaff Road via A.T. over Little Bigelow Mtn. Very Strenuous. A.T. Restricted Hike. \$10/carpool fee.	17	4250	1.5		H0662 0700		H0862 0700		

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WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be held during the day on Saturday, August 5 through Monday, August 7.

Workshops are being offered in eight (8) different tracks: "Beyond the Corridor" (BTC), "Cultural/Historical Resources of the A.T." (CHR). "Engaging Youth/Diversity" (EYD), "Hiking and Backpacking Skills" (HBS), "Hiking Beyond the A.T." (HBT), "Natural Wonders" (NTW), "The Appalachian Trail Experience" (ATE), and "Trail Maintenance and Management" (TMM). The track for each workshop is listed after the workshop name.

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

You have the option of taking a series of workshops in the track(s) in which you are most interested or pick and choose between various tracks. However, in order to assign the appropriate size room for each workshop, registrants MUST INDICATE ON THEIR REGISTRATION FORM WHICH WORKSHOPS THEY WILL BE ATTENDING.

All club leaders and agency partners are encouraged to attend workshop W0646, The Essentials of A.T. Cooperative Management, on Sunday, August 6, at 3:30 PM.

There will be one offsite field workshop: W0851 "Enjoy The View" Visual Resource Inventory Technical Field Trip (Destination TBD) to learn on-site at an Appalachian Trail location about how to implement the National Park Service's Scenery Conservation System. This will be held all day on August 8.

MAINE 2017 WORKSHOPS

Saturday, August 5, 2017

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

W0501 - The Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust. (BTC) Simon Rucker, Executive Director, MATLT.

The Maine A.T. Land Trust has conserved over 20,000 acres along 28 miles of the A.T. during the past 14 years, lands that represent some of the most diverse natural communities in the state.

W0518 - Tramping Abroad – What and How to Pack and How to Prepare for Outdoor Adventuring beyond the US. (HBS) Ruth Jamke.

Ruth Jamke, better known as Sam, is a long-time ATC member and even a longer-time member of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). She has been leading AMC Adventure Travel trips since 2008, after retiring from a career as a chemist. Her AMC and personal travels have taken her to England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Switzerland, Italy, Patagonia (Chile and Argentina), the Canadian Rockies, New Zealand, Antarctica, Luxembourg, and Morocco, as well as hiking in many US locales. Modes of transport have included plane, bus, train, water taxi, car, helicopter and ocean-going ship. Sam will share tips she has learned along the way, including gear lists, packing suggestions, web sites to consult, and some pitfalls to avoid. There will also be discussion of how agents or outfitters in foreign lands can help you with planning and reservations. We will have time for Q&A.

W0520 - The International Appalachian Trail as a partner in development & nature-based tourism. (HBT) Dick Anderson and Don Hudson.

The IAT has captured the attention of government agencies and non-governmental organizations in 13 countries on 3 continents, particularly for the role that it might play in rural economic development. IAT organizers from Maine, Canada, and several countries that rim the North Atlantic Basin will present aspects of the developing partnerships between private and public interests for which the IAT is a central component. The presenters will discuss "Drifting Apart" — a Global GeoPark initiative, and a special collaboration between Ireland and Northern Ireland for which the IAT is the common thread — the first on-the-ground, cross-border initiative since the signing of the 1999 Good Friday Agreement.

W0526 - Alpine Plants of New England (NTW) Margaret (Peg) Nation.

An overview of the alpine area and plant communities that are present along the AT in New Hampshire and Maine will be given. I will share with you photographs of the common and not so common alpine plants that are found in these areas. A discussion on the threats to the survival and stability of plants located in the alpine areas of the northeast will be provided.

W0533 - "The A.T. Experience"--Whatever Happened to an "Unaided Effort"? (ATE) Hawk Metheny, New England Regional Director, ATC.

The National Park Service's Comprehensive Plan for the Management of the Appalachian Trail states that Trail design, construction, and maintenance should reflect a concern for safety without detracting from the opportunity for hikers to experience the wild and scenic lands by their own unaided efforts, and without sacrificing aspects of the Trail which may challenge their skill and stamina. Attempts to provide protection for the unprepared lead to a progressive diminution of the experience available to others. Hawk Metheny, New England Regional Director, ATC will lead a discussion of how cell phones, GPS instruments, and high-tech backpacking gear have changed the perception of "unaided" and what this might mean for NPS/ATC policies.

9:45 AM to 11:15 AM

W0502 - What's Going On? A Forester's Views of Forest Management Seen from the Maine A.T. (BTC) *Mark Doty, Maine Forester and MATC corridor monitor.*A forester shares insights on the diverse mosaic of the working forest that can be seen from the A.T., starting with the big picture and zooming into the pieces that make up the landscape.

W0507 - History of Baxter State Park and the Early Years of the Appalachian Trail (CHR) John Neff and Howard Whitcomb.

John Neff and Howard Whitcomb are leading authorities on the history of the Katahdin region and Baxter State Park. Their talk will provide a flash back to the 1930s with historical tidbits and images of what an early AT hiker might have experienced on the trek north from the Penobscot's West Branch to Baxter Peak. Percival Baxter's "magnificent obsession" and the park's early history will be featured, along with selected images and stories from less-traveled areas of the 210,000-acre wilderness park.

W0508 - Benedict Arnold and the Appalachian Trail (CHR) Steve Clark.

This workshop will describe the route and events concerning the secret 1775 Revolutionary War expedition to capture Quebec, led by Col. Benedict Arnold. The 1100 brave soldiers marched from Cambridge, MA and used bateau to ascend the Kennebec and Dead Rivers on their way to attack Quebec. The route lay through a terrible wilderness where they endured unbelievable hardships, a hurricane and starvation. Nearly two hundred years later, the Appalachian Trail was routed along three miles of the portage path of the expedition. How this came to pass is a great story.

W0516 - Common sense ideas for backpacking after fifty (HBS) Sue Williams, Founder, www.fiftysense.com, Common Sense Ideas for Thriving After Fifty.

When Sue started backpacking at 48, she could not find any information about older backpackers, especially for women. She has since learned that there are tons of over fifty backpackers out there having a ball. Learn how to pack light, walk smart, take care of your body, prepare for any kind of weather, and adapt for your own style.

W0544 - Corridor Monitors' Forum (TMM) Alison Scheiderer, Land Protection Associate, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, New England Regional Office.

This workshop will be an opportunity for current and aspiring volunteer corridor monitors to interact with each other and to learn more about the current efforts of the Corridor Monitoring and Maintenance program. Please come to discuss reporting, encroachment follow-up, maintenance of overgrown lines or any other boundary matter with the ATC staff and other Corridor Monitors.

1:15 PM to 2:45 PM

W0511 - How to Hike with Your Children So They Will Want to Go Again and Again (EYD) Jeff Alt, www.jeffalt.com.

Jeff Alt, www.jeffalt.com, family outdoor guru and author of the award-winning book, Get Your Kids Hiking: How to Start Them Young and Keep it Fun, and the new children's National Park book series, The Adventures of Bubba Jones, shares how to turn a trip to the woods into a fun-filled, multi-dimensional adventure. Learn how a few simple techniques and some basic equipment can turn any walk in the woods into a safe, fun-filled adventure that kids of all ages and parents will enjoy.

W0517 - Prehab for Health (HBS) Sue Williams, Founder, www.fiftysense.com, Common Sense Ideas for Thriving After Fifty.

Learn about the importance of physically preparing for a hike, hydration, electrolyte balance, first aid on the trail and off, and keeping your feet happy to stay healthy on the trail. Did you know there are correct ways to walk and techniques to help you go uphill and down? Learn ways to prevent blisters and hot spots and how to pick out the right shoe.

W0521 - The International Appalachian Trail and the Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument (HBT) Dick Anderson, Don Hudson, and Walter Anderson.

A permanent route for the International Appalachian Trail remains the goal for this fledgling long distance trail. The designation of nearly 90,000 acres spanning the East Branch of the Penobscot River east of Baxter State Park secures a permanent route for the first 40+ miles of the IAT. Dick Anderson, Don Hudson, and Walter Anderson will recap the history of the IAT in Maine, the move to the East Branch lands beginning more than a dozen years ago, and the special geologic features that anchor the trail in Maine.

W0525 - A.T. Seasons: Tracking Phenology from Georgia to Maine (NTW) *Marian Orlousky, Northern Resource Management Coordinator, ATC, and Conner McBane, Natural Resource Specialist, ATC.*

"Á.T. Seasons" is a citizen science based monitoring project that uses the power of observation to bring people and nature closer together. By helping to track and document the seasonal lifecycles of plants and animals along the A.T., volunteers are helping A.T. managers and their partners to better understand how changing climates may be impacting the A.T. and its resources. The A.T. Seasons monitoring program is well suited for both the young and young at heart.

W0542 - Hardening the Footpath (TMM) Lester Kenway, President of the MATC.

This program will include the processes of rebuilding steep trails and hardening wet land trails. Case studies will include Katahdin's Hunt Trail, The North Slope of Whitecap Mt. and the cedar swamps along Nahmakanta Stream and Rainbow Deadwaters. Lester Kenway has spent over 40 years reconstructing portions of the Appalachian Trail, Baxter State Park Trails, and Maine Conservation Corps projects. He is credited with developing the Griphoist - highline system used to gather stones for these projects.

Sunday, August 6, 2017

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

W0605 - "I tell you Myron, it's magnificent". History of the A.T. in Maine (CHR) Dave Field, Overseer of Lands for the Maine Appalachian Trail Club and Trail maintainer in Maine for 60 years.

After digitizing more than 25,000 pages of Maine Appalachian Trail Club records and transcribing 20 years of Myron Avery's documentation of the creation of the Trail in Maine, Dave will relate the struggle to extend the A.T. beyond the White Mountains, the relocation of more than half of the route in Maine from 1970-1990, the 40-year task of finding protection for the surroundings of the Trail, and the key people involved in all of these efforts.

W0627 - Summer Songbirds of Maine (NTW) Peter McKinley, Climate Adaptation Ecologist, the Wilderness Society.

Knowing more about the birds around you will enrich any hike. Come learn how to identify the most common summer birds along the AT, as well as a couple of birds unique to the northernmost miles of the Trail. Learn Maine bird songs, field marks for identification, and the birds' behavior so you'll know them when you hear or see them on the trail. This workshop will be followed by an early morning bird walk on campus, time and gathering point to be announced at the workshop.

W0635 - The History of ALDHA (ATE) Bill O'Brien, ALDHA newsletter editor.

The evolution of the Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association from the first Gathering in 1982 and its formal creation in 1983 with a look at some of the people who've helped make ALDHA what it is over the past 35 years.

W0636 - Leave No Trace Awareness. (ATE) Marian Orlousky, Northern Resource Management Coordinator, ATC.

The Leave No TraceTM Awareness Workshop is the first level of the Leave No Trace curriculum. Join us to learn about and discuss the seven principles of Leave No Trace and earn a Leave No Trace Awareness Certificate. Participants will engage in activities, games and discussions that will broaden their skills and understanding of outdoor ethics and help them feel more comfortable sharing Leave No Trace information with others. Best suited for adults and youth 10 and up, but all are welcome.

W0637 - Appalachian Trail Communities (ATE) Julie Judkins, Director of Education and Outreach, ATC.

Building a Network of Support and Advocacy along the A.T. This workshop will provide successes from A.T. Communities and interactive discussions around best practices for how to communicate, sustain, and engage a lasting network for our 40 designated communities.

9:45 AM to 11:15 AM

W0610 - Fresh New Lives: The Early Women's Ascents of Katahdin (CHR) Stan Tag, Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Western Washington University.

Explore stories, experiences, narratives, and images from the earliest recorded ascents of Katahdin by women, including intersections with the early women's rights movement, perceptions and challenges of being in the woods and mountains, and what Lucy Chase called "freedom of dress, freshness of air, and newness of life."

W0613 - Why Walking Matters: Benefits of Walking; Improvisational Skills in Long-Distance Hiking (HBS) *Tom Jamrog, Triple Crown thru-hiker, author, and Maine Guide with Uncle Tom's Guided Adventures.*

From the ages of 57 to 63, "Uncle Tom" thru-hiked four National Scenic Trails. Tom reviews the latest research on the physical and mental health benefits of walking, and discusses physical training and mental techniques that can bolster an aging hiker's continued success on the trail.

W0619 - Hiking Safety and Decision-making in the Back Country, a Baxter State Park Perspective (HBS) Jensen Bissell, Director, Baxter State Park.

Baxter State Park conducts around 40 significant search and rescues each season. Sadly, some of the rescues become recoveries. No one leaves their car or sleeping bag in the morning with a plan to become the focus of a rescue later in the day, so what happens? This workshop will review the key factors that contribute to a tragedy on Katahdin what key factors can guide your decision making in the backcountry so that you can return safely to the trailhead or campsite at the end of the day.

W0632 - A Century of Hiking: The State of Acadia National Park's Trails (HBT) Michael Madell, Deputy Supervisor, Acadia National Park.

From early rusticators and surveyors scrambling and bushwhacking in the mid-19th century to many thousands of visitors enjoying 140 miles of trails today, Acadia National Park's trail system has long been one of the key features that makes Acadia one of the country's favorite national parks. This presentation will explore the history of hiking at Acadia, the public-private partnerships that help sustain the trail system, and the contemporary challenges that the park is addressing to ensure that generations to come will continue to enjoy high quality trekking experiences.

W0641 - BSP & Katahdin Trail Ambassador Training (ATE) Aaron Megquier, Executive Director, Friends of Baxter State Park.

This workshop is for those intending to thru-hike the A.T. in 2018 who would like to give back to the trail along the way. As a volunteer ambassador for Baxter State Park and Katahdin, you can chat with other hikers along the trail and help build a trail culture that supports the northern terminus. We'll cover all the details you need to know to be an effective ambassador. At the end of the training, if you're excited to serve as a volunteer, you'll leave with a lightweight set of talking points and a wicking trail ambassador t-shirt. Northbound, southbound, and flip-flop hikers are welcome to participate. Workshop capacity: 15 people.

1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

W0603 - Protecting the A.T. from external threats. What is being done and how you can help. (BTC) Denise Nelson with support from NPS APPA Staff, ATC Staff, and volunteers. The Appalachian Trail is constantly under threat from ever expanding development pressures. The nature and location of the A.T. make it especially vulnerable to degradation by "a thousand cuts." Cumulative impacts from new and upgraded powerlines and pipelines, wind turbines, roads, housing and commercial developments, etc. all threaten treasured A.T. resources and the hiker experience. In partnership with local land trusts and community groups, the NPS, ATC, and A.T. Clubs are joining forces to help protect the trail and the large landscapes that encompass it. Come learn how we are working together and how you can participate in protecting our beloved Trail.

W0606 - Within Katahdin's Realm: Cultural Resources of Maine's 100-Mile "Wilderness". (CHR) Bill Geller.

Bill Geller made his first journey into the wilds of Maine in 1968 and has never stopped wandering. In 2010 his curiosity pertaining to logging, trapper and sporting camp remains; rusty iron, rock cribs, and old graves that he recorded in Maine's 100 mile wilderness of the A.T. became the focal point of his ongoing research and writing that includes discussions with over 200 individuals whose families worked these woods. Loggers entered this wilderness in the 1820's and began their river drives. Trappers soon followed and the sporting camp era started c.1870.

W0612 - Staying found: Compass, map-reading, GPS (HBS) Alison Scheiderer, Land Protection Associate, ATC.

Come learn orienteering skills volunteers employ in monitoring the Trail corridor's exterior boundaries. After practicing map and compass navigation outdoors, we will return to the classroom to learn the ATC's Corridor Monitoring and Maintenance (Boundary) Program and about use of these techniques to protect the Trail. If you have a compass, bring it!

W0624 - Trail development in a difficult area (HBT) George S. Rishmawi, Executive Director of the Masar Ibrahim Al Khalil (Abraham Path).

George will present a case study of this proposed 321 km walking path across Palestine, describing when and how the trail was developed, successes to date, and the goals of sustainable community based tourism that are a focus of the initiative.

W0643 - Privies for the 21st Century: Your Deposit Doesn't Stop Here (TMM) Laura Flight, MATC Campsite Committee Chair.

What is an "accessible moldering privy"? How do you get 150, 20-pound loads of materials to a campsite to build one? The MATC has installed 8 accessible moldering privies to date, with 34 more planned over the next 17 years. We haven't used planes or trains (yet), but we have used automobiles and boats, and a lot of shoulders. Come hear about the logistics of such undertakings and the accessible moldering design.

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

W0622 - Trails Every Which Way (HBT) Ron Dobra.

Ron Dobra, MATC Whitecap District overseer, 22 year section maintainer, retired Greenville, Maine music teacher and avid backpacker, has hiked border to border three times and coast to coast for a total of 12,000 miles. Join him for a narrative with occasional slides comparing and contrasting through hikes of the Appalachian, International Appalachian, Pacific Crest, Continental Divide, and American Discovery trails.

W0628 - The Art of Katahdin (NTW) David Little, author of The Art of Katahdin.

David will offer an historical survey of the arts and artists of the Katahdin region with much new information discovered after the book was published. A discussion of the relationship of art to conservation will draw on the visual beauty and excitement of the Katahdin region, the author's ongoing work for a new book Art of Acadia, and his experiences with the Katahdin Lake campaign and the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument campaign. This richly illustrated presentation will include choice "show and tell" items for audience interaction.

W0631 - What does "forever wild" really mean? The challenges of "Keeping the Park from changing" (NTW) Jensen Bissell, Director, Baxter State Park.

Baxter State Park is operated as a large public trust. The trust donor Percival Baxter directed that the park lands "shall forever be kept for and as a State Forest and Public Park for Public Recreational Purposes, shall forever be kept in their natural wild state and as a sanctuary for wild beasts and birds." Baxter also stated that "the area is to be maintained primarily as a Wilderness and recreational purposes are to be regarded as of secondary importance and shall not encroach upon the main objective of this area which is to be Forever Wild." Sound easy? It's not. This workshop will focus on the challenges involved with mixing recreation and wilderness, especially when wilderness comes first.

W0634 - Safe Crossing of Maine Brooks and Streams (ATE) Hawk Metheny, New England Regional Director, ATC.

Hawk Metheny will discuss how to read stream flow, pick a good line, safe fording techniques, etc. He will also touch on why there are very few bridges along the A.T. in Maine and explain the uniqueness of the Kennebec River Ferry operation.

W0646 - The Essentials of the A. T. Cooperative Management System (TMM) Sandi Marra, Chair ATC Board of Directors, Ron Tipton, ATC Executive Director, and Wendy Janssen, Superintendent Appalachian National Scenic Tra

Join ATC and NPS leadership in a discussion of current threats to the integrity of the A.T. and key Trail management issues, Learn about the importance of the Cooperative Management System to the many partners and the A.T.

Monday, August 7, 2017

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

W0704 - Historical Controversies on the Appalachian Trail (CHR)

Meet to discuss the historical controversies, from the Avery-MacKaye dispute to the present day. Appalachian Trail historian Tom Johnson will lead a discussion of those incidents, both known and unknown to present-day club members. Do you know if your club has been involved in any of them? You might be surprised.

W0709 - The A.T. Museum, Past, Present, and Future (CHR) Larry Luxenberg, President, and Bill O'Brien, Appalachian Trail Museum Society

The story of how the Museum got started, what's happening now and plans for the future including the new children's area and research library, Larry Luxenberg, President, and Bill O'Brien, Appalachian Trail Museum Society.

W0747 - Enjoy the View: An introduction to the National Park Service Scenery Conservation System. (NTW) Mark Meyer, PLA, Visual Resource Specialist, National Park Service Air Resources Division and Robert Sullivan, Environmental Scientist, Argonne National Lab. In recognition of the National Park Service centennial in 2016, the NPS Air Resources Division led an effort to develop a methodology for describing and evaluating scenic resources across America's diverse national parks, and to apply this new protocol to addressing visual resource management needs in a limited number of pilot parks including the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. This session will introduce key elements of a new NPS Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) protocol, draw comparisons with other visual resource management systems, and highlight emerging uses.

W0730 - Conserving the Realm of the Appalachian Trail in Maine (NTW) Peter McKinley, Climate Adaptation Ecologist, the Wilderness Society.

It was many years after my first walk on the Appalachian Trail in Maine that I had a name for my experience of the trail beyond the many footsteps taken over that week. I was in what Benton MacKaye termed the "realm" of the Appalachian Trail. An extensive view of relatively undeveloped forest accompanied by a sense of remoteness and self-sufficiency on the part of the visitor are obvious aspects of the realm, but the realm also includes many permanent residents. Populations of wildlife and the people of small towns also depend upon these same large forested tracts. This workshop will draw from 25 years' experience as biologist, land manager, conservationist, and hiker to discuss the past, present, and potential future of the trail's realm in Maine.

W0753 - Capital Plan Development & Project Writing: How to request an APPA-funded project. (TMM) Keith Stegall, APPA Facility Manager, Harpers Ferry.

Workshop will discuss what the Facility Capital Plan is and how it relates to the Facility Management Software System (FMSS) and the Project Management Information System (PMIS). We will inform students on what NPS funding sources are typically available and which projects are eligible for what funding source. We will also dissect how the NPS project funding cycle works, what task agreements are, and lastly, dive into what goes into writing a good project request narrative.

9:45 AM to 11:15 AM

W0714 - Strategies to Increase Hiker Safety along the Appalachian Trail. (HBS) Kevin Adam, Lieutenant, Maine Warden Service.

The Maine Warden Service conducts many rescues and searches for hikers travelling on the Appalachian trail every year. We will discuss techniques that can assist hikers when becoming injured or lost, how to reduce their chances of becoming injured or lost, and what to do when becoming injured or lost. This will examine past searches and rescues that have occurred along the trail.

W0738 - Life Lessons from the Appalachian Trail (ATE) Jeff Alt. www.ieffalt.com

Thru-hiker class of 98, and author of the award-winning AT memoir, A Walk for Sunshine, takes you along every step of his entertaining adventure with bears, bugs, blisters, skunk bedmates, hilarious food cravings and riddled with life lessons. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy this adventure for a noble cause. Jeff dedicated his journey to his brother who has cerebral palsy inspiring an annual fundraiser which has raised almost a half of a million dollars for the disabled

W0748 - Assessing Visual Resources on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NTW) Jim Von Haden, Integrated Resources Program Manager and Matt Robinson, GIS Specialist, Ap-

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is one of 22 national parks that initially volunteered for the opportunity to participate in a NPS scenery conservation initiative called "Enjoy the View". In 2016, assisted by staff from the NPS Air Resources Division and Argonne National Laboratory, the park sponsored a visual resource management workshop at Harpers Ferry, WV, during which a new NPS visual resource inventory protocol was introduced and field tested by AT management partners. In this session, we will discuss the results of the workshop and examine potential uses of this new NPS VRI protocol for AT scenery management.

W0740 - Heading to Katahdin? A Primer for NOBOs (ATE) Aaron Megquier, Executive Director, Friends of Baxter State Park.

Katahdin is different than anywhere else on the A.T. It is a wild, fragile, and special place to finish a thru-hike. This workshop, especially intended for northbound hikers, will provide the latest information on how to finish well in Baxter State Park. We'll also cover a range of information that will help you appreciate the wilderness surroundings at the northern terminus more deeply. You can check out our terrain model of Katahdin, see what a BSP thru-hiker permit looks like, and get answers to all of your questions about gear, logistics, weather, and more.

1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

W0723 - History along the Camino de Santiago (HBT) Janice Clain et al.

The AT has been in use for almost eighty years. Add a thousand to that number to get a sense of the history of the Camino de Santiago. Benton MacKaye conceived the idea for the AT, and Myron Avery and hundreds of volunteers built and maintained it. The Camino was built and maintained by kings, queens, monks, and ordinary country people, some of whom were raised to sainthood for their work. AT hikers follow white blazes, the pilgrim follows scallop shells and yellow arrows. AT hikers stay in lean-tos; pilgrims stay in simple refuges, many of them dormitories, some modern, some in ancient monasteries and hospitals. The AT passes by visitor centers; the Camino passes by medieval cathedrals. Like AT hikers, medieval pilgrims had their own guide book that gave descriptions of the path, tips for planning and carrying out a pilgrimage. Join a panel of New Englanders who have varying experiences with the Camino and who will recount the history of the pilgrimage route, tales of their own pilgrimages, and tips for planning and carrying out a modern day walk on this ancient foot path.

W0749 - Visual Resource Inventory training Workshop (Part One) (NTW) Mark Meyer, PLA, Visual Resource Specialist, National Park Service Air Resources Division and Robert Sullivan, Environmental Scientist, Argonne National Lab

This is the first of two back-to-back training sessions on the new National Park Service Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) protocol. In this session participants will learn key elements used to describe and document the visual character and quality of landscapes, including landscape type and character, view description, scenic quality, and view integrity. This session is open to anyone interested in visual resource management, and will provide essential training for participants in Tuesday's Visual Resource Inventory Field Trip (W0851)

W0739 - Maine Woods Initiative - AMC's Model for Community Centered Land Conservation (ATE) Kaitlyn Bernard.

Over the last 10 years AMC's Maine Woods Initiative has forged a new model for land conservation in the famed 100-Mile Wilderness: 70.000 acres of conservation land, including 24.000 acres of ecological reserve, sustainable forestry, public access for recreation, 130 miles of non-motorized trails, and lodges and campsites all open to the public. Our efforts reach beyond the conservation land through local community partnerships around nature-based tourism, education programs for local youth, and creating long term employment. Come learn more about what we're working on and how it can serve as a model for future conservation efforts.

W0745 - Recreational Liability and the A.T. (TMM) Bob Proudman, retired ATC Director of Operations.

What is your "duty of care" as a Trail maintainer? Can you or your club be sued for a real or alleged failure in maintaining the Trail to suitable standards? Learn about the principles of negligence, existing protections for volunteer trail maintainers, and lessons from several real lawsuits.

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

W0715 - Lightweight and Long-Distance Backpacking (HBS)

Members of the Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association will share their wisdom from thousands of miles of lightweight backpacking so you can hit the trail the next time with a lighter load on your back. It makes your hike so much more enjoyable, and it's healthier on your body.

W0729 - Reaching New Visitors Through the Arts (NTW) Charles Tracy, Superintendent, National Park Service, New England National Scenic Trail.

How can national parks and national trails continue to serve as places of sanctuary and recreation while responding to the changing demographics and interests of 21st century visitors? There is a growing realization among land managing organizations of the need to be more creative in reaching out to new visitors, especially to populations that are under-represented at parks and on trails, to invite their participation in the enjoyment and stewardship of these lands. This session will offer diverse examples and lessons learned from engaging new visitors through the visual and performing arts. The arts can provide unexpected and vital benefits to new visitors, enabling them to "see the landscape with fresh eyes."

W0750 - Visual Resource Inventory training Workshop (Part Two) (NTW) Mark Meyer, PLA, Visual Resource Specialist, National Park Service Air Resources Division and Robert Sullivan, Environmental Scientist, Argonne National Lab. This is the second of two back-to-back training sessions on the new National Park Service Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) protocol. In this session participants will learn how to evaluate importance factors for a viewed landscape and to integrate view importance ratings with scenic quality scores to generate a comprehensive scenic inventory value. This session is open to anyone interested in visual resource management, and will provide essential training for participants in Tuesday's "Enjoy the View" Visual Resource Inventory Field Trip. Participants will move outdoors during this session, so please dress accordingly.

W0752 - Walking With Winter (HBS) Gordon Dubois, ATC member and journalist for the Laconia NH Daily Sun.

At the end of the warm weather hiking season too many trampers stow away their gear, recall fond memories of the season past and wait with great anticipation for next summer's trips. However, there's a whole new world waiting to be discovered: hoarfrost covering rocks and trees, layers of snow blanketing spruce boughs, crystal blue skies arching overhead, biting winds blowing snow into odd shapes and no bugs to torture you. This is the season of winter, three months out of the year when the mountains offer the adventurous hiker an opportunity to experience the beauty of the cold weather season. Using photos and stories from three decades of winter hiking in the mountains of the Northeast, Gordon will take you on a winter journey. In the process he will provide important practical information so you can take to the mountains this coming winter season.

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

6:30 AM to 6:30 PM

W0851 - "Enjoy the View" Visual Resource Inventory Technical Field Trip (Destination TBD) (NTW) Jim Von Haden, Integrated Resources Program Manager, Appalachian National Scenic Trail, Mark Meyer, PLA, Visual Resource Specialist, National Park Service Air Resources Division, and Robert Sullivan, Environmental Scientist, Argonne National Lab. This special field workshop builds upon the visual resource inventory (VRI) principles introduced during Monday's visual resource management workshops to inventory scenic resources on and near the AT. In order to learn the basics of a new NPS VRI protocol that will be used to conduct scenic quality assessments, field trip participants are asked to attend a two-part Visual Resource Inventory Training Workshop scheduled for Monday afternoon (W0749, W0750), and are also encouraged to attend the two Monday morning sessions for a better understanding of the visual resource management context. Participants will car pool approximately 1.5 hours to an AT trailhead, then undertake a moderate-to-strenuous hike lasting up to six hours to conduct field assessments at key viewpoints. The group will return to Colby College by 6:30 PM. Participants must be prepared to hike on rough terrain at high elevation. Sturdy footwear and rainwear are required. Participants must provide and carry their own lunch and water. Pre-registration is required as group size is limited. Must be 18 years or older.



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES (Special Workshops, Field Workshops, and Tours)

There are a variety of Special Activities being offered starting on Monday, August 7th through Thursday, August 10th. All of these Special Activities begin with the Code (S) and require advance registration. Some payments (Pay at Site=PAS) are made directly to the vendor/instructor as appropriate. Please be prepared to make the necessary PAS payments in cash. Some activities require payment by July 15, 2017 (PIA) as part of conference registration. Special Activities table will be open during registration for available slots as deemed per instructor. Special Activities will be held in the locations listed (subject to change).

REFUNDS: See Excursions - applies to Special Activities that are PIA (Paid in Advance).

Monday, August 7, 2017

2:00 to 3:15 PM - \$0703 Archery

A beginner's intro to Archery with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School. Cost: \$38.00-PIA

2:00 to 4:00 PM - S0701 Swing Dance

Energetic dance lessons featuring jazz tunes from the 1920's to 1950's, Cost: \$5 PAS

3:30 to 4:45 PM - S0704 Archery

A beginner's intro to Archery with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School.

5:00 to 6:00 PM - S0700 Zumba

A fun, high paced aerobics style class inspired by various styles of Latin American dance. Instructor: Christine Bishop Cost: \$7 PAS

5:45 to 8:15 PM - S0702 Knitting

Bring your own knitting to Yardgoods store and craft with fellow knitters/crocheters. Yarns can be purchased at store. (carpool)

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM - S0805 2-day Wilderness First Aid (WFA)

16 hours-Tues/Wed SOLO course. Topics: patient assessment, SOAP note documentation, patient lifting & moving, musculosckeletal anatomy & injuries; principles of fracture care & splinting; cold & heat related injuries; trauma, soft tissue injuries & medical emergencies; sprains & strains, spinal cord injury management, use of epinephrine, environmental emergencies, safety preparedness, treatment of common problems & rescue plan. Cost: \$175.00-PIA

9:45 AM to 12:45 PM - S0800 Knitting/Beginner Crochet

Always wanted to learn how to knit or crochet? Here's your chance at this beginner class. Materials purchased at your own expense. Carpool, Cost: \$10 -PAS

2:00 PM to 3:15 PM - S0801 Fly Casting

A beginner's intro to fly-casting with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School. Cost: \$34.00-PIA

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM - S0803 Colby College Biomass Tour

Visit Colby's state-of-the-art alternative energy building and see how it powers a campus through the use of wood burning chips. Cost: Free

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM - S0802 Fly Casting

A beginner's intro to fly-casting with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School.

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM - S0804 Yoga

Focus on breath control, meditation and body postures to ease your mind and body. Instructor: Hillary Langlais. Cost: \$10- PAS

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM - S0805 2-day Wilderness First Aid (WFA)

16 hours-Tues/Wed SOLO course. Topics: patient assessment, SOAP note documentation, patient lifting & moving, musculosckeletal anatomy & injuries; principles of fracture care & splinting; cold & heat related injuries; trauma, soft tissue injuries & medical emergencies; sprains & strains, spinal cord injury management, use of epinephrine, environmental emergencies, safety preparedness, treatment of common problems & rescue plan. Cost:

2:00 to 4:00 PM - S0902 Swing Dance

Energetic dance lessons featuring jazz tunes from the 1920's to 1950's: Cost: \$5- PAS Instructor:TBD

2:00 to 5:00 PM - S0903 Map & Compass

A beginner's intro to map & compass with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School. Cost: \$38.00-PIA

3:00 to 4:00 PM - S0900 Colby College Biomass Tour

Visit Colby's state-of-the-art alternative energy building and see how it powers a campus through the use of wood burning chips. Cost: Free

5:00 to 6:00 PM - S0901 Zumba

A fun, high paced aerobics style class inspired by various styles of Latin American dance. Instructor: Christine Bishop. Cost: \$7- PAS

Thursday, August 10, 2017 2:00 to 4:00 PM - \$1003 Geocaching

A beginner's intro to geocaching with instructors from the L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School. Cost: \$30.00-PIA

2:45 to 5:15 PM - S1000 Needlefelting

Beginner class, no experience necessary, learn how to needlefelt with local artist Bob Nichols (carpool) Cost: \$20- PAS

4:00 to 5:00 PM - S1002 Yoga

Focus on breath control, meditation and body postures to ease your mind and body. Instructor: Hillary Langlais, Cost: \$10 -PAS

3:00 to 4:00 PM - S1004 Colby College Biomass Tour

Visit Colby's state-of-the-art alternative energy building and see how it powers a campus through the use of wood burning chips. Cost: Free



EXCURSIONS

Maine is known as "VACATIONLAND." There are thousands of possible adventures. We have developed and chosen a select few, unique excursions that as a visitor to Maine you may not easily discover on your own.

These excursions focus on Maine's rich heritage and Downeast culture and captivating land/ seascapes. They include bike rides throughout central Maine, guided tours of historical sites, walking tours through harbor towns and museums, and opportunities to visit one or two of Maine's 300+ islands. None of the excursions are repeated.

In addition, once you arrive on campus, a list of self-guided excursions suggested by the committee will be available.

EXCURSION REGISTRATION

All excursions require advanced registration. Many of those listed require that fees be **paid in advance** (PIA) as part of your conference registration. Please note: these excursions **require that registration and payment be completed online or mailed and postmarked by July 15, 2017.**

Advance registration for all excursions closes July 15, 2017. After that date, if openings are available, attendees can register and pay for these activities at the Excursions Desk during the conference.

Some excursions may require participants to pay for food, fees, etc. For these small amounts, please be prepared to have cash on hand. Amounts listed in the excursion descriptions are estimates and are subject to change.

REFUNDS

In accord with overall conference policy, cancellations and refund requests for excursions must be made by July 15, 2017. See registration form above.

After July 15, 2017, there will be NO refunds for PIA excursions. Participants have the option of "re-selling" their excursion reservation to someone else by posting a notice at the Excursions Desk area. Conference volunteers will not assist in brokering excursion tickets.

Should an excursion be cancelled due to insufficient registrations, ATC will issue the refund as soon as possible.

CAPACITY LIMIT

Each excursion has a capacity limit, so early registration is suggested. Once an excursion is full, you are encouraged to regularly visit the conference registration website (during the conference check at the Excursions Desk) to see if a spot has opened up due to a cancellation. If a spot is open, you may register for that excursion and pay the appropriate fee. If an excursion is closed/canceled, see Excursions Desk for directions to go on your own.

TRANSPORTATION

For several of the Excursions, shuttle vans or buses will be provided. (See individual excursions for transportation details). Should a particular excursion not reach the minimum number for the bus, we may carpool or cancel.

We suggest that carpooling participants assist driver for gas costs. These contributions are made directly to the driver and the amounts listed in the excursion descriptions are suggested guidelines. For small amounts, please have cash on hand. Note: When registering for carpool excursions, please indicate your willingness to drive.

CHILDREN

Children under 18 years of age and accompanied by a parent or adult guardian are welcome on any excursion that they are capable of doing and for which they are properly equipped. Minor children, accompanied by a parent or legal guardian are welcomed to all events.

WAIVERS

Some excursions may require the signing of a waiver by each participant prior to leaving for your excursion. Minors will need to have a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.

BIKE RIDES

For bike trips, here is what you should know:

- You must provide your own bike.
- There are two rides that do not originate from Colby and will require you to have a bike rack.
- Bike helmets are required for all bike excursions. In Maine, all bicyclists under 16 years old are required by law to wear a helmet.
- You should come equipped with an extra tire tube and basic repair kit.
- All bike rides are on Maine roads, so we must share the road appropriately.



MAINE 2017 EXCURSIONS

Saturday, August 5, 2017

9:00 AM - E0501 - Sandy River Valley Bike Ride. Start at the Mercer community center, through the town of Mercer, then on to Rt. 2 and the Lane Rd. to New Sharon and on then to Tumbledown Brewery in Farmington for a beer tasting. Return through Farmington Falls, Rt. 41, and over Cape Cod Hill for a fantastic view of the Western Mountains and return to Mercer. Approximately 30 miles of rolling hills and beautiful farmland. Carpool -\$3/person. Bring trail lunch. Expected return by 3:00 PM.

Sunday, August 6, 2017

8:30 AM - E0601 - Lower Kennebec River Valley Historical Tour. From Colby, we will work our way upriver making stops at the historic Pownalborough Court House (where John Adams sometimes practiced), the 1763 Colburn House, 1754 Old Fort Western (the jumping off place for the Revolutionary War Quebec Expedition led by Col. Benedict Arnold) and Fort Halifax, a National Historic Landmark and the oldest blockhouse in the United States. 75 mile tour, leaving and returning to Colby via coach bus. Fee includes: coach transportation, historical guide, and site entrance fees-\$50.00 PIA. Bring trail lunch. Expected return by 4:00 PM.

10:00 AM - E0602 - Coastal Camden & Rockport Harbors. Bus and walking tour of two of the most picturesque Maine coastal harbors. An active schooner fleet and sailing yacht center is overlaid on the historical patina of the mill and rock quarrying past, all set at the foot of the Camden Hills. This bus tour will include a trip around the Camden Hills to drop off hikers, followed by stops at Rockport harbor and Camden harbor with a guided walking tour of the village of Camden. The trip will finish at the Cellardoor Winery to join the hikers for a free wine tasting before returning to Colby. Bus and tour fee- \$21 PIA. Expected return by 6:00 PM.

10:00 AM - E0603 - Colby College Loop Bike Ride- 35 miles. Bike rural Oakland and Norridgewock and a lovely stretch of road along East Pond. Stop along the way for snacks or bring your own. Leave from Colby and ride for 35-40 miles at a moderate pace. Bring trail lunch. Expected return by 4:00 PM.

Monday, August 7, 2017

8:30 AM - E0701 - Upper Kennebec River Valley Historical Tour. Continuing the route started the day before (see Lower Kennebec River Valley Tour description). From Colby, we will pass the four portages of the 1775 Quebec Expedition beginning at Ticonic Falls in Waterville. We will make stops at the L. C. Bates Museum (1800's rural life), Skowhegan Falls (the site of the 1724 Norridgewock Indian Village Massacre), Devil's Falls, then into the mountains, ending at the present Appalachian Trail canoe crossing of the Kennebec at Caratunk. 108 miles tour, leaving and returning to Colby via coach bus. Fee includes: coach transportation, historical guide, and site entrance fees -\$40 PIA. Bring Trail Lunch. Expected return by 4:00 PM.

7:30 AM - E0702 - Owl's Head Lighthouse & Transportation Museum. We will pass thru Camden and Rockland to the coastal town of Owl's Head to visit the active lighthouse on the rocky headland overlooking Rockland harbor. Owl's Head also has a vibrant lobstering fleet with one of the few active lobster pounds still in operation in Maine. We then proceed to the town's world class air & land Transportation Museum where volunteers maintain the operating collection of antique autos, airplanes and motorcycles. Conclude the day with a visit to the Cellardoor Winery for a free tour and wine tasting. Bus and admission fees-\$30 PIA. Expected return by 6:00 PM.

8:30 AM - E0703 - Hinckley Farm Loop Bike Ride. 35 miles. Ride through rural Maine to view some amazingly large dairy farms on one side of the road and the Kennebec River on the other side. Pickup ice cream along the way, and make a bakery stop. Enjoy lunch prior to visiting the famous Bates Museum at the Goodwill Hinckley School. Slow to moderate pace for 35 miles. Bring trail lunch. Bike ride starts and ends at Colby. Museum fee- \$3 PAS. Expected return by 2:00 PM.

6:00 PM - E0704 - Quarry Road Bike Ride & Scavenger Hunt. Bike close to Colby College. Ride off-road on a 4' bike path on a warm summer evening and enjoy a scavenger hunt along the way. Expected return by 8:00 PM.

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

8:00 AM - E0801 - River Road & Backyard Farms Bike Ride- 25 miles. Bike From the Skowhegan Fairgrounds along River Road and backyard farms with views of the Western Maine Mountains. Ride along the Kennebec. Pass by an amazing 10 acre greenhouse operation. Slow to moderate pace for 25 Miles. Bike ride starts and ends at Skowhegan Fairgrounds. Car pool: \$5/per person. Bring trail lunch. Expected return by 2:00 PM.

7:30 AM - E0802 - Penobscot Bay. Visit Camden Harbor with a guided walking tour of a coastal village. Continue via bus to Lincolnville Beach for a Ferry ride to the Penobscot Bay island of Islesboro. Seals and porpoise are often seen on this 30-minute boat ride. Visit the lighthouse & museum. Enjoy lunch on the beach or onboard the return ferry. After lunch, you have the option for an easy 3-mile hike to pick fresh blueberries on Cameron Mtn. or visit Cellardoor Winery for a free winery and vineyard tour. Bus, admission fees & ferry ticket: \$24 PIA Bring Trail lunch. Expected return by 6:00 PM.

9:30 AM - E0803 - Maine State Museum & State Library with stop in Myron Avery room. Learn about Maine's history with this 2-hour tour; enjoy your lunch on the grounds of the State House before completing this tour with a visit to Maine's State Library which has a specific room for Myron Avery's (1899 - 1952, chairman of ATC 1931 - 1952) correspondence, pictures, etc. regarding the A.T. Library has availability to copy material. Tour Fee-\$3.00 PIA and Carpool-\$4.00/person. Bring Trail lunch. Expected return by 3:15 PM.

2:00 PM - E0804 - Heritage Apple Orchard lecture & Tour. Visit a 10-acre preservation orchard with 280 variety of apples and pears traditionally grown in Maine. Preceded by a discussion with John Bunker, nationally known Apple expert and learn the history of apples and the historic farming/growing practices of New England. This orchard is on the site of the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners' Association (MOFGA) grounds. Carpool-\$4.00/person. Expected return by 5:00 PM.

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

7:30 AM - E0901 - Art Museums of Rockland. The Farnsworth Museum with its Wyeth (celebrating Andrew's 100th birthday) collections is the anchor for the vibrant art scene in this industrial seaport. This bus trip will travel thru Camden before arriving at the Farnsworth. After a docent-led tour of the museum collections -- with time on your own, we will travel into the coastal town of Cushing to visit the Olson House and the Langlais Sculpture Preserve. Conclude your day with a visit to the Cellardoor Winery for a free winery and vineyard tour. Bus & Museum Fees-\$40 PIA. Expected return by 6:00 PM.

10:00 AM - E0902 - Vaughan Woods and Historic Homestead. Settled in 1794, Historic Vaughan Homestead was home to seven generations of the Vaughan family. Follow over 200 years of Maine history in this non-traditional museum. Walk the Vaughan Woods, a nature preserve featuring a 3-mile trail system and six stone-arch bridges. Enjoy your lunch on the homestead porch overlooking the Kennebec River and stroll through the charming village of Hallowell. Museum Fee-PAS, Carpool-\$5/person; Bring trail lunch. Expected return by 4:30 PM.

6:15 AM - E0903 - Kennebec River Whitewater rafting. Famous for its remote wilderness setting, BIG roller coaster waves and guaranteed summer releases, the Kennebec is the most popular whitewater river in the Northeast. Legendary rapids like the 3 Sisters, Alleyway, and Magic Falls guarantee to keep your heart racing. Ideal for beginners or experienced rafters, the Kennebec River full day trip will take you on a 12-mile journey through the Kennebec River gorge from Harris Station to The Forks and features a hearty noon-time riverside cookout, the opportunity to paddle inflatable kayaks, and plenty of time to swim and enjoy the scenery. At the end of the day watch a slideshow and video from your adventure and enjoy a handcrafted beer from the on-site Kennebec River Brewery. Van transport from & to Colby, lunch & raft trip \$99/person PIA. Expected return by 5:30 PM.

Thursday, August 10, 2017

7:30 AM - E1001 - Nautical Rockland. We will pass thru Camden and disembark at the Lighthouse Museum to begin a guided walking tour of this fascinating mix of working waterfront, historic buildings and art galleries. Next stop, the Puffin Center, to learn about this bird's return to Maine. After lunch, either a trail lunch in the harbor park or at the many restaurants, we bus to the far side of Rockland Harbor for another walk. The 0.8-mile breakwater is believed to be unique among Army Corps 19th-century breakwaters - the entire structure is dry-laid using local materials. When first built, autos would drive to the lighthouse perched above 65-feet deep water. Conclude the day with a visit to the Cellardoor Winery for a free tour and wine tasting. Bus and admission fees- \$30 PIA. Expected return by 6:00 PM.

11:00 AM - E1002 - Cabbage Island Clam and Lobster Bake. Take the scenic ferry from Boothbay Harbor en route to Cabbage Island in Linekin Bay. The ferry will cruise along Maine's quaint and picturesque coastline, where you could see lighthouses, seals, ospreys, and where you might see fisherman checking their traps. Once on Cabbage Island, you will be served a traditional Downeast clambake. This authentic meal includes a steaming cup of traditional New England Fish Chowder, two luscious bright red lobsters, tender white steamed clams wrapped in foil, sweet golden corn on the cob, onion, and new Maine potatoes, Blueberry Cake for dessert, all served with hot fresh coffee or iced tea. Car pool \$5/person, ferry+clambake-\$80.00 PIA. Expected return by 6:00 PM.



EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

TIM SAMPLE

Tim Sample is a Maine native whose unique New England style of humor has gained him a national following. Introducing Tim on ABC's Good Morning America, Charles Gibson referred to him as, "The man who wrote the book-literally, on Maine humor!" Legendary newsman Charles Kuralt has called Sample "Maine's Humorist Laureate." Tim has written and/or illustrated over a dozen books, including regional bestsellers Saturday Night at Moody's Diner and How to Talk Yankee.

In a career spanning four decades Tim has appeared at venues as diverse as The Mall of America, Ocean Reef Club on Key Largo and the Caribou Maine Performing Arts Center. Tim performed at the 1997 ATC Biennial and is back by popular demand.



ANNI CLARK

Maine native Anni Clark thru hiked the Appalachian Trail from Maine to Georgia. Her journey gave her a sense of accomplishment & confidence that allowed her to pursue her dream of a career as a singer-songwriter. Since 1981, Anni has released 7 recordings & shared stages with performers like Shawn Colvin, Richie Havens & Dar Williams to name a few. With soulful vocals & 6 & 12 string guitars, she blends folk, pop & blues with a dash of "Maine humah" to engage audiences of all ages. Maine's Kennebec Journal wrote about Anni, "she can have you laughing one moment and close to tears the next with the honest emotions in her material." Forever an avid hiker, Anni will tell you "music & mountains move me... they work together to make me whole." Check her website at www.anniclark.com.



ALUMNI BAND

Alumni Band — sit and tap your toes, snap your fingers or get up and dance as you listen to a local group of talented musicians who enjoy playing music together. In the cold winter nights of northern Maine, just shy of 30 miles from the A.T., this group gets together and perfects classic jazz music standards.

DREADNAUGHT

Utterly uncompromising multi-movement prog-rock opuses, gritty bar-band Americana, experimental electronic music, music for ad agencies and radio stations, even music for orchestra - there's not a lot that Dreadnaught hasn't done at this point.

Since 2005, Dreadnaught has been the house band for The Music Hall/New Hampshire Public radio series Writers On A New England Stage, where we've composed and arranged music for authors such as Dan Brown, John Updike, Stephen King, Patti Smith, Madeleine Albright, Ken Burns, Alan Alda, Chris Matthews, Neil Gaiman, and US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, among others.

Dreadnaught has played in more than half the states of the union and along the way have been privileged to share the stage with artists (and deep band influences) like John Entwistle, Tony Levin, NRBQ, and a ton of others. www.dreadnaughtrock.com.



SOME REEL PEOPLE

Some Reel People is a joyous and ever-evolving traditional country dance band from the Dexter area, playing jigs, reels, waltzes and polkas. Their combined sound of fiddles, guitars, mandolin, piano, banjo, bass, accordion, Irish flute and penny whistle will make you want to dance! Caller: John MacIntyre.



JAM SESSION!

Like to jam and just get together and play music? Bring your instrument to the conference!

PRE & POST-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Activities must be arranged separately using the info provided.

ART AND LAND CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (AUGUST 3-4)

A two day symposium exploring the role of 19th and 20th century visual artists in the American conservation movement and considering how their work can inform land conservationists, outdoor enthusiasts, art lovers, and citizen stewards in addressing contemporary pressures on the American landscape.

Learn from experts on Adams, Bierstadt, Church, Cole, Hartley, O'Keefe, Olmsted, Watkins and others how artists created landscape images for Americans who had never, and might never, experience them directly. Nationally recognized scholars in art, history, American studies, and law will relate how art helped policy makers embrace a land protection ethic based on the aesthetic values of nature and played a critical role in the creation of our first national and state parks. The Symposium will be held at Colby College just prior to the Maine Appalachian Trail Conference. Advance registration is required for these two full days of lectures and break-out sessions conducted by nationally recognized scholars and experts. Symposium registration will include a Thursday evening reception at the Colby Museum of Art and a Friday evening presentation followed by the Conference Opening reception. Registration Fee \$95. The symposium will be followed by optional field trips (August 5 and 6) to three iconic Maine regions where some of America's most famous artists worked -- Katahdin, Acadia, Monhegan. Registration details can be found at www.artlandsymposium2017.org or by sending an email to ArtSymposium2017@ATconf.org.



4 days/3 nights at a spectacular off-the-grid camp location in the heart of Maine's 100-Mile Wilderness with day hikes on the A.T. (on sections that will not be covered by scheduled hikes during the conference). Drive-in to this "green" lodge, which provides hearty meals and a central bathhouse with showers, sauna and composting toilets. Accommodations include deluxe cabins with private baths, shoreline cabins or bunkhouse. Hiking destinations along the A.T. include Gulf Hagas, the Chairback Mountain loop & Third Mtn. Rates vary depending on level of accommodation. Call 603-466-2727 using group number 352324 for more details and reservation information. For other info: www.outdoors.org/gorman

MEDAWISLA LODGE & CABINS (AUGUST 11-14)

4 days/3 nights at the newest off-the-grid AMC camp in the heart of Maine's 100-Mile Wilderness with day hikes on the A.T. (on sections that will not be covered by scheduled hikes during the conference). Drive-in to this just-opened lodge, which provides hearty meals and a sauna. Accommodations include deluxe cabins with private baths, waterfront cabins or two bunkhouses. Hiking destinations along the A.T. include Whitecap Mtn. and day trips into Baxter State Park. Rates vary depending on level of accommodation. Call 603-466-2727 using group number 352329 for more details and reservation information. For other info: www.outdoors.org/medawisla

HUT-TO-HUT SHORELINE TREK (AUGUST 11-13)

3 days/2 nights at the well-appointed lodging of the Maine Huts & Trails system. Explore Flagstaff Lake and hike along the Dead River to Grand Falls deep in the forest of western Maine.

Park at the Long Falls Dam Road Trailhead before 3PM, and hike the flat shoreline trail for just over 2 miles to Flagstaff Hut. If time and conditions allow, you can swim, kayak, canoe or paddleboard before dinner is served at 6. After a hot breakfast prepared by the hut crew, you'll pack your trail lunch and sleeping gear, and strike out towards the shoreline trails of the Dead River with your guide. After hiking 12 miles, you'll arrive at Grand Falls Hut with plenty of time to settle in, explore the terrain, and find your bunk room before dinner is served at 6.

After breakfast the next morning, you'll pack your trail lunch and gear for the day's 14-mile hike, stopping for lunch along the way. You'll arrive back at Flagstaff Hut in the early afternoon, before making your way back to the nearby trailhead. Register online http://tinyurl.com/shorelinetrek prior to June 15 for special A.T. conference rate of \$223/pers.: 2 nights of lodging at two different huts in shared bunkrooms (bring sleeping bag), hot showers, all meals (2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 2 trail lunches), and guide service for two days. Gear shuttle available for an extra fee – details upon registration.









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the donors whose names are not listed in this issue of the magazine. Your gifts and tributes are appreciated and will be recognized in the next issue.

FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL

A little more than a year ago, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) began implementing key portions of the Strengthened Capacity and Organizational Excellence goal of our Strategic Plan. We have focused on replacing or upgrading the equipment and tools we use to communicate with our members, track donations, and account for our finances. As with any transition there have been some glitches.

Some of you may have received oddly addressed mailings or experienced long delays in receiving an acknowledgement of your gifts. I apologize for the errors. We are working hard to complete the transition to our new data systems and fixing the errors as we find them. We appreciate your patience as we learn to use these new tools at their full capacity.

Once the new systems are in place there will be some added benefits for our members and volunteers. We will announce these as they are implemented.

Finally, this is my last Trail Giving column. I want to thank all of our members for a great 11 years at the ATC. I have met or talked to so many of you, and your dedication to the Trail and to the ATC's mission is much appreciated. I have enjoyed my time with the ATC. Marie Uehling will be stepping into my position for the interim. You can reach her at: muehling@appalachiantrail.org 4

Happy Trails,

Royce W. Gibson / Senior Director of

Membership & Development



views from the

HIKING PARTNERS

looking to hike the A.T. this

summer. Starting in summer

because I am a school teacher.

I am looking to complete the

Trail at a pretty fast pace.

Hiking in the memory of a

friend who battled PTSD and

for all those who still do. For

more information and if you are

interested please contact: Greg

at greg.rodrigue@smail.astate.

edu or call: (985) 686-1076.

Steve Johnson, a.k.a. "Fob,"

Sir Fob W. Pot's Journey to

Katahdin, detailing his 2016

on Amazon. See his "Author

Steve Johnson" Facebook

page for photos, interviews,

and more details: facebook.

Two external frame backpacks,

filtration system, numerous Trail

related books — all in very good

to new condition — if interested

email: ladybugs192@live.com.

Cabin for sale: Hike 15 minutes

to Burnett Field Mountain on the

Georgia section of the A.T. from

your own mountainside, totally

com/authorstevejohnson.

two 5x7 "pup" tents, Bluet

stove. First Need water

A.T. thru-hike. It's now available

has published his debut book,

FOR SALE



The Appalachian Trail Conservancy rely's on the generosity of donors like you to help us fulfill our mission and vision of protecting the Appalachian Trail.

MEMBERSHIP

PALACHIANTRAIL

an oversized Appalachian Trail strip map, four issues of A.T. Journeys, discounts at the Ultimate Appalachian Trail Store and other select retailers, volunteer opportunities, and invitations to special events. Best of all, you'll help us protect an irreplaceable American treasure!

furnished 3 BR, 2 BA cabin, Ideal **BENEFITS INCLUDE:** location for a Hiker Hostel: a full time home or Summer home. Asking: \$195,500. Call: (706) 747-3735 or visit the Virtual Tour: suchesque alestate. com MLS: #263501.

> For Sale: EUREKA! Spitfire Tent – \$50; Sierra Designs Light Year CD tent – \$50 (both tents in great shape); GoLite, 800 Goose down fill, 20-degree sleeping bag (like new) \$150. Contact: Flatfeet at (706) 747-3735.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION Twenty-seven-year-old veteran

Call for ATC 2019 Calendar **Photos.** The mailbox is open until July 15 for those perfect photographs for the 2019 Appalachian Trail Conservancy Calendar. Visit: appalachiantrail.org/ 2019calendar for submission standards, and then mail submissions on a DVD or CD to: Publisher, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425. For more information visit: appalachiantrail. org/2019calendar.

Nominations are now in order for honorary membership in the Appalachian Trail **Conservancy** (ATC) — an award intended to recognize long-term, extraordinary service to the Trail and the ATC by a person still living and not paid for that service. Fifty-six men and women have been accorded that status since the late 1960s. The nomination should state the type of contribution made, the years of service on behalf of the Trail, and any other information that might be of interest to the selection committee. Among other criteria for the honor is a bylaws requirement that "the service performed shall have had an inspirational or exemplary effect because of its special quality/character or innovative aspects, rather than be service of conventional nature but performed in a superior manner.... If the nominee's service has been mainly within a particular club that service must have had either regional implications or must bear upon the Trail

as a whole, or upon the club's

Nominations can be emailed

relationship to the ATC."

to: publisher@appalachiantrail. org with "Honorary Member" in the subject line, or mailed, before May 25, to: Honorary Membership Committee, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

The Seventh Annual A.T. Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Friday, June 2 at the Comfort Suites in Carlisle. Pennsylvania. The MC this year will be Ron Tipton, president & CEO of the ATC. For complete information and to order tickets visit: 2017athalloffamebanquet. eventbrite.com.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) is recruiting for several internship positions for the fall of 2017 including: Market Research, Public Relations, Social Media, Visitor Services, Development Database. Development Events, and Lands Steward. Interns work on a wide variety of projects and tasks including everything from membership and development to conservation. An internship at the ATC is an excellent way to gain a handson, work-learn experience in a specific area of interest or field of study. For more information and to apply visit: appalachiantrail.org/careers. A

Public Notices may be edited for clarity and length.



editor@appalachiantrail.org

Public Notices P.O. Box 807 Harpers Ferry, WV 25425-0807

A DECADE AGO I WAS LOOKING

for part-time college jobs in any environmental research lab that would take me — as long as it meant I got to spend some time outside. As a freshman at Notre Dame, I had no interest in anything that would require a suit or that would confine me to four walls. Business? No thanks. Policy? Not for me. I wanted to be walking trails, identifying birds anything but sitting under the fluorescent lights of a classroom. Anywhere that I could feel immersed in nature.

Throughout my post-undergraduate twenties, I worked in the field across the U.S. and around the world, always wondering about the threats to wild, open spaces. Who would come in and cut down this forest I was surveying? Who would pollute these rivers I was researching? When I started my graduate degree in environmental management at Duke University, I finally caved and studied environmental economics and policy. My background in science, economics, and policy brought me to advocacy, and this is how I ended up on the NextGen Council, which advises the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) on how they can incorporate youth and diversity into their strategic plan so they are ready to preserve the Trail in a changing world.

So here I was, a decade later, heels clickity-clacking on the marble floor of the senate building, following veteran ATC staff as they gently pressed representatives and senators of Trail states to remember the A.T. Each year, "Hike

"As I See It" is a column from guest contributors representing the full range of ATC partners, members, and volunteers. To submit a column (700 words or under) for consideration:



journeys@appalachiantrail.org

or write to Editor/As I See It Appalachian Trail Conservancy P.O. Box 807 Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

the Hill" brings Trail and outdoor organizations and enthusiasts from around the country to Washington, D.C. to quite literally hike the hill (Capitol Hill), asking senators and representatives from states around the country to protect our wilderness and recreational areas. This is not something that I would have ever imagined being excited about as a freshman in college. But I've learned over the past decade that protecting wilderness often starts and ends in Washington, D.C.

This year, we were there to inform congressional and agency staff about high priority land protection projects for the A.T. These projects would be funded from limited Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) that are appropriated by Congress. This fund is generated from a tax on oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico to support land conservation projects. Without LWCF there would not be a protected Trail corridor. We also advocated for permanent re-authorization and full funding for LWCF. We asked them to continue to support pipeline projects that have low impacts to the Trail's beauty and quality and to block the Mountain Valley Pipeline, a hasty and irresponsiblyplanned project that will seriously impact some of the Trail's most pristine areas in Virginia.

It is no surprise that Washington, D.C. has had an eventful couple of months. Our representatives and senators have been getting hounded by constituents. We arrived just as the release of President Trump's first Executive Order threw Congress into chaos. To say that the representatives and senators we saw were distracted would be an understatement. Most senators were not able to meet with us, but we were able to meet with their staff. Staff for both Democrats and Republicans seemed relieved to be talking about the A.T. instead of some of the more partisan topics they have been trying to navigate. They smiled, talked about their favorite spots on the Trail, spent time with us, and promised they would do their best.

I had never visited a congressman or





From left: Next Gen Council members Kelly Garvy, Stephen Eren, Tony Richardson, Marcela Maldonado, and the ATC's Julie Judkins on Capitol Hill

senator's office to advocate for a position on a bill, but I can now highly recommend it to anyone passionate about an issue. We need to be engaged in politics if we want to preserve wild places like the A.T. I walked away from Hike the Hill with a deeper understanding of the challenges that elected officials face, challenges that are heightened by a polarized country.

A couple of weeks after our visit, Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) co-sponsored the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It's impossible to tell if our request had any influence. But I'll at least try to find out.

The polarization of our politics seems to have left little room for compromise lately. And when I spoke to staffers of Republicans and Democrats alike, it was clear that they are trying to do what their constituents want them to do. For me, this means that if we want our elected officials to work across the aisle with one another to preserve vast landscapes like the A.T., we may have to mend the relationships between parties in this country. And if we can solve the polarization in our own families and personal relationships, maybe we can soften it in on the "hill" too. Because, whether you are a Democrat or Republican, elected official or constituent, we all get the same benefit from the Trail: peace. 🛧

Kelly Garvy LIVES IN DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA



