



WILDERNESS MATTERS

Maine Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
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Baxter State Park and Katahdin: A Pictorial History An AMC Maine Chapter Evening Program on Thursday, June 13

John Neff and Howard Whitcomb share their vast knowledge of the Katahdin region's history and the creation of Baxter State Park in an illustrated presentation on Thursday, June 13. Their 2012 book, *Baxter State Park and Katahdin*, draws on rich collections of archival images, many never published, dating back to the 19th century.

Neff and Whitcomb will share tales of the native peoples, accounts of early scientific explorations in the area, chronicles of adventurers including Henry David Thoreau's visits to Maine's North Woods in the 1840s and 1850s, the spirited era of logging and sporting camps, and Governor Percival Baxter's purchase of 201,000 acres over a period of 30 years.

John Neff is a retired pastor of the United Methodist Church and lives in Winthrop. He is the author of *Katahdin: An Historic Journey* (Appalachian Mountain Club, 2006).



A Baxter State Park vista: Katahdin as seen from The Traveler overlooking Upper South Branch Pond

He first climbed Katahdin in the early 1960s and was a long-time Appalachian Trail trail maintainer in Baxter State Park. He is a past president of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club and the founding president of Friends of Baxter State Park (FBSP).

Howard Whitcomb, a Georgetown resident,

is professor emeritus of political science at Lehigh University. He is the author of *Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession: A Documentary History of Baxter State Park, 1931-2006* (FBSP, 2008). He also compiled and annotated for FBSP a four-volume set of original materials, Percival P. Baxter's *Vision for Baxter State Park* (2005). Howard's park experiences date back to the early 1950s when he climbed Katahdin three consecutive summers.

John and Howard will sign copies of their book (\$22), with all proceeds going to Friends of Baxter State Park.

On Thursday, June 13th join us in the Upstairs Lecture Hall at the Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow St, Bangor. See driving directions at www.amcmaine.org under Meetings and Education committee. This program and all AMC evening educational programs are free and open to the public.

Trekking in Patagonia

An AMC Maine Evening Educational Program on Tuesday, May 14, 2013



Laguna de los Tres and Monte Fitz Roy (11,180'), Los Glaciares National Park, Argentina.

Few people have traveled to Patagonia in the far southern reaches of South America. Sam Jamke, on the other hand, has been there twice: once building trails as a volunteer and once leading a group of experienced hikers. On Tuesday, May 14 at the Freeport Community Library, Sam will share beautiful photos of scenery and wildlife, stories from both trips, and logistical tips for exploring Patagonia yourself.

AMC member and Adventure Travel Leader, Sam Jamke first went to Patagonia in 2008 to work on building and repairing trails in Chile's Torres del Paine National Park with a California-based non-profit, Conservation Volunteers International Program. She resolved to return there some day to experience more hiking in the region.

In 2012, she realized that objective by leading an AMC Adventure Travel excursion to Argentine and Chilean Patagonia. It was a spectacular hiking and backpacking adventure that included trekking in Los Glaciares National Park in Argentina and Torres del Paine National Park in Chile.

Inside:

-  **Lots of trips and activities, meetings and events to get you out there and enjoying winter in Maine! p. 2-4**
-  **Alice Arlen on Louise Dickinson Rich, Open Pit Mining, p. 5**
-  **Member Profile: Jim Thorne, Tar Sands Debate, p. 6**
-  **Trekking the Gaspé, AMC member opportunities, p. 7**
-  **Young Member outings, Out and About with AMC Maine, p. 8**

OUTINGS/EVENTS/ MEETINGS/EDUCATION

A Note about the Listings

The listings below—presented in date order by category—include only those posted online prior to the submission deadline for this issue of *Wilderness Matters*. For the most complete, accurate, and up-to-date listings—and so you don't miss spontaneous outings—please periodically check out the Calendar online at www.amcmaine.org/calendar. For general questions or comments regarding these listings, contact Michelle Moody, Outings Chair, outings@amcmaine.org or (207) 319-7355.

Next Deadline, Wilderness Matters, Summer/Fall Issue: June 1.

Wilderness Matters is your chapter newsletter. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to contribute, be it stories, news, opinions, photos, or whatnot. We want to hear from you! Send submissions to newsletter@amcmaine.org. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE: The calendar listings below have been edited for space in order to reduce the size of the newsletter from 12 pages to 8 pages, thereby saving the Chapter about \$800 annually. For full, complete details on these listings, please refer to the AMC calendar online at www.amcmaine.org/calendar.

Members can help the Chapter save even more by switching from the postal mail/paper edition to the electronic version of *Wilderness Matters*. Dollars we save on printing and mailing can be directed to other club activities. To go paperless, go online to the AMC Member Center at www.outdoors.org/membership/member-center.cfm. Thanks!

YOUNG MEMBERS

Thursday, March 21: Spring Ski Trip Planning & Social ~

Young Members, Portland ME. Spring Ski Trip Planning & Social. RSVP/Txt to Kim Sanders (207) 712-0862 or Al Mandell (607-316-5773). All Levels. Leader: Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 7: Tuckerman Ravine Trip. Enjoy Tuckerman Ravine in the Springtime! Come to WATCH spring skiers or BE a spring skier. Contact Al Mandell at mandell.ah@pg.com, (607-316-5773) or Kim Sanders, youngmembers@amcmaine.org. Moderate. Leader: Kim Sanders, youngmembers@amcmaine.org, Albert Mandell, 607-336-2733, mandell.ah@pg.com

Sunday, May 5: New Members Social, Eastern Promenade, Portland. Join us for a late afternoon get-to-know-you at the Eastern Promenade in Portland from 3 to 5 PM. Everyone welcome! Registration not required; feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Rain date: Kick-off the Summer Potluck on Wed, June 26. Easy. Leader: Denise Fredette, deniserae77@gmail.com.

Wednesday, June 26: Celebration of Summer Social, Fort Williams Park, Cape Elizabeth. Folks of all ages welcome! Time: 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Gather at Fort Williams (at the grills to the left of the beach area) for an early evening of fun! RSVP optional, but encouraged. If weather looks questionable, there will be a notice by 2 PM on YM Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/groups/9829386986/>. Rain Date: Thurs, June 27 5:30-7:30 PM. Leader: Denise Fredette, deniserae77@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 9: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, Freeport, ME. Meets every odd month (January, March, May, July, September, November) on second Thursday. Important conservation topics, outdoor and educational activities, finances, and other items are discussed. Open to all. Upstairs meeting room of Freeport McDonald's from 6:30-8:30pm. Leader: Larry Dyer chair@amcmaine.org.

Thursday, July 11: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, Freeport, ME. See info above.

MEETINGS & EDUCATION

Thursday, April 4: Open-Pit Mining in Maine, Fields Pond Audubon Center, 216 Fields Pond Rd., Holden. NRCM Staff Scientist Nick Bennett and Jeff Reardon of Trout Unlimited will discuss the major issues associated with open-pit mining and describing what's ahead for Maine. Sponsored by Fields Pond Audubon Center and AMC Maine Chapter. Time: 7-8:30 PM. FMI, Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org or Audubon Naturalist, Holly Twining at htwining@maineaudubon.org. **Please see page 5 of this newsletter for complete details on this program.**

Monday, April 8: Open-Pit Mining in Maine, Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth. NRCM Staff Scientist Nick Bennett and Jeff Reardon of Trout Unlimited will discuss the major issues associated with open-pit mining and describing what's ahead for Maine. Sponsored by Maine Audubon and the AMC Maine Chapter. Time: Potluck 6-7 PM, Program 7-8:30 PM. FMI, Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org or Karen Herold at conservation@amcmaine.org. **Please see page 5 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.**

Thursday, April 25: Carbon Nation: A Climate Change Solutions Movie, Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth. Do Something for Earth Week! Free Local Screening of Carbon Nation. Time: Potluck 6-7 PM, Movie at 7 PM. Sponsored by AMC Maine Chapter and Maine Audubon. FMI, Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com. **Please see page 8 of this newsletter for complete details on this program.**

Tuesday, May 7: Trekking the Gaspé with Kish and Leyman, Fields Pond Nature Center, Holden. Join Carey Kish and Fran Leyman for highlights of their 8-day, 70-mile trek on the International Appalachian Trail (IAT) through Gaspésie National Park. Time 7 PM. Sponsored by Fields Pond Audubon Center and AMC Maine Chapter. FMI, John Mullens, education@amcmaine.org

Wilderness Matters

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amcmaine.org. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.

Tuesday, May 14: Sam Jamke on Trekking Patagonia, Freeport Community Library, Freeport. AMC member and Adventure Travel Leader Sam Jamke will share beautiful photos of scenery and wildlife, stories from her trips to Patagonia, and logistical tips for exploring the region yourself. Potluck dinner at 6 PM and Sam at 7 PM. FMI, email Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org. Please see page 1 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.

Tuesday, May 21: Backpacking Workshop, Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth. A fun two-hour evening workshop that'll give you all the information you need to plan a successful backpack trip. Advance registration required. Leader: Ray Cooper, (207) 929-2726, rcooper207@yahoo.com.

Thursday, May 30: A Tar Sands Pipeline through Maine? Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth. Dylan Voorhees, Clean Energy Project Director for the Natural Resources Council of Maine, will address questions on the possibility of tar sands oil coming to Maine at an evening presentation at the Gilsland Farm Audubon Center in Falmouth on May 30. Optional potluck dinner at 6PM (bring a plate, utensils, and a food to share), program starts at 7 PM. Please see page 6 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.

Tuesday, June 11: Alice Arlen on Louise Dickinson Rich, Author of We Took to the Woods, Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick. Alice Arlen is generally considered to be the foremost biographer on Maine author Louise Dickinson Rich. In her talk, Arlen will bring to life Louise Dickinson Rich by relating facts about Rich's life and telling stories about her early and later years as a young girl, mother, woodswoman, and writer. A potluck dinner will start at 6 PM, followed by Alice's program at 7 PM. FMI, email Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org. Please see page 5 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.

Thursday, June 13: Baxter State Park and Katahdin: A Pictorial History, Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow St, Bangor. John Neff and Howard Whitcomb, authors of the 2012 book, Baxter State Park and Katahdin. Free and open to the public. FMI, John Mullens, education@amcmaine.org. Please see page 1 of this newsletter for full article with complete details on this program.

HIKING

Wednesday, March 27: Moonlight Walk on Eastern Trail, Scarborough. Easy. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, (207) 619-9444, RNLhussey@maine.rr.com.

Saturday, April 6: Speckled Mountain, Evans Notch. Intermediate snowshoe hike via Link and Cold Brook trails. Moderate. Leaders: Debby Kantor, (207) 854-3431, dlkantor@aol.com; Lorraine Hussey, (207) 619-9444, RNLhussey@maine.rr.com.

Thursday, April 25: Moonlight Beach Walk on Old Orchard Beach, Scarborough. Easy. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, (207) 619-9444, RNLhussey@maine.rr.com.

Saturday, April 27: Bradbury Mtn., Pownal. Explore the new trails on the back side of the mountain. Easy to moderate. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.

Thursday, May 2: Hike Heald and Bradley Pond Preserve, Lovell. Hike three 3 mountains: Whiting Hill (800'), Amos Mtn. (955') and Flat Hill. Moderate. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, (207) 619-9444, RNLhussey@maine.rr.com.

Saturday, May 25: Moonlight Walk at Prouts Neck, Scarborough. Easy. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, (207) 619-9444, RNLhussey@maine.rr.com.

Saturday, June 29: White Mountains, NH. Hike to summit of Mt. Flume (4328') via Lincoln Woods and Osseo trails. Rain date June 30. Moderate. Leader: Ray Cooper, (207) 929-2726, rcooper207@yahoo.com.

Saturday, July 13: White Mountains, NH. Hike Mt. Eisenhower (4780') via Edmands Path. Rain date July 14. Moderate. Leader: Ray Cooper, (207) 929-2726, rcooper207@yahoo.com.

Saturday, July 27: Baldface Circle Trail Hike, Evans Notch, New Hampshire Join leaders on one of the most attractive hikes in the White Mtns. Please e-mail us or call after 7 PM for more details. Moderate. Leader: Larry DeHof, (207) 310-8952 (between 7-9 PM), ldhof@access4less.net.

TRAINING

Friday, April 19 - Sunday, April 21: Wilderness First Aid Course, Knubble Bay Camp, Georgetown. Two-day SOLO Wilderness First Aid course with optional CPR module. Saturday dinner, Sat. and Sun. breakfasts, two nights lodging. Taught by AMC Risk Management staff. Leader: Mary McCann-Baker, (207) 399-8534, marymb6@hotmail.com.

Saturday, April 27 - Sunday, April 28: Wilderness First Aid, Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth. Two-day Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course taught by SOLO instructors. CPR module not included in this course. Fees cover instruction and materials. Does not include lodging or meals. Snacks provided. Cost: \$80 for Maine chapter members, \$100 for AMC (non-Maine chapter) members, \$140 for all others. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.

Saturday, May 4 - Sunday, May 5: Advanced Wilderness First Aid, Falmouth Fire Station, Falmouth. Two-day Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course taught by SOLO instructors. Possible CPR module. Fees cover instruction and materials. Does not include lodging or meals. Snacks provided. Cost: \$90 for Maine chapter members, \$110 for AMC (none-Maine chapter) members, and \$150 for all others. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.

Saturday, May 4: Map and Compass Training, Location TBD. Basic map and compass training, refresher for those needing it. Morning classroom session followed by outside practical session. Class size limited. Leader: Roger David, (207) 737-9870, rd04342@gmail.com.

Friday, June 21 - Monday, June 24: Leader Training Weekend, Rangeley Lake State Park. Share your knowledge and learn from other AMC Maine Chapter trip leaders. Group campsite at the park. Easy to more difficult. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.

Patagonia - continued from page 1

The group eased into the outdoor experience with a tour of the Perito Moreno Glacier while staying in El Calafate, Argentina. They then traveled to El Chaltén, Argentina, for three days of hiking in the area near Monte Fitz Roy and Cerro Torre before heading to Puerto Natales, Chile. Here they began a five-day, four-night backpack of the famed "W" route in Torres del Paine National Park. Staying in the Park's refugios with all meals provided and hot showers available, they experienced the breathtaking scenery and fierce winds for which the area is famous. A catamaran trip concluded the backpack and the trippers returned to Puerto Natales for a night before visiting Punta Arenas on the Straits of Magellan.

Check out the Patagonia scenery and hear the stories by joining Sam and friends on **Tuesday, May 14th at the Freeport Community Library, 10 Library Drive in Freeport.** We'll start with a potluck dinner at 6 PM and Sam at 7 PM. Bring a potluck item to share and, if possible, your own dinnerware (plate, utensils etc.). Drinks will be available. See driving directions at www.amcmaine.org under Meetings and Education Committee. The talk is free and open to the public. FMI, email Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org.

TRAIL WORK

- Saturday, April 27: Trail Work on Ledges Trail, Pleasant Mtn., Bridgton.** Joint trail work trip with Loon Echo Land Trust. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, May 11: Trail Work on Burnt Meadow Mountains, Brownfield.** Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, June 1: Trail Work on Appalachian Trail, Wyman Township near Stratton.** Moderate to strenuous. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, June 15: Trail Work on Rumford Whitecap Mtn., Andover.** Joint trip with Mahoosuc Land Trust. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Monday, July 8 - Thursday, July 11: Trail Work at Gorman Chairback Lodge and Cabins, T7 R9 NWP.** Support the AMC Maine Woods Initiative conservation mission by joining us for work projects in beautiful North Maine Woods. Enjoy stay at lodge on Long Pond. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, July 20: Trail Work on Hastings Hill, Brownfield and Porter.** Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, August 17: Trail Work on Pleasant Mtn., Bridgton.** Joint trail work trip with Loon Echo Land Trust. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Saturday, August 31: Trail Work on Bald and Speckled Mtns., Peru.** Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Friday, October 11 - Monday, October 14: Boundary Line Maintenance at Little Lyford Lodge and Cabins, Bowdoin College Grant East.** Peak foliage, no biting insects, photogenic moose, great food and lodging, wonderful volunteers. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.
- Friday, October 11 - Monday, October 14: Trail Work at Gorman Chairback Lodge and Cabins, T7 R9 NWP.** Stay at Gorman Chairback, the newest lodge in AMC MWI and help finish up the season's trail work. Moderate. Leader: Peter Roderick, (207) 293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

- Friday, May 17 - Sunday, May 19: Hiking & Biking in Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor.** Weekend of hiking and/or biking in Acadia National Park. Cost is \$110/person for two nights lodging. Moderate. Leader: Ginette Beaudoin, (207) 294-6302, ginette4000@yahoo.com.
- Saturday, June 8 - Sunday, June 9: Beginner Backpack, White Mountains, NH.** Hike to Ripley, Thoreau and Zealand falls via Ethan Pond Trail. Camp at Ethan Pond Shelter. Follow up hike to May 21 Backpacking Workshop. Easy. Leader: Ray Cooper, (207) 929-2726, rcooper207@yahoo.com.
- Tuesday, September 24 - Friday, September 27: Maine Chapter Fall Getaway, Cold River Camp, Evans Notch, ME—NH border.** Includes 3 nights lodging with all meals. Or stay at a WMNF campground nearby. Hiking, fishing, paddling, biking. Rest, relax or be active. Registration is open, book early to hold spot. Deposit required. Easy to Difficult. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.
- Friday, September 27 - Sunday, September 29: Maine Chapter Fall Weekend, Cold River Camp, Evans Notch, ME—NH border.** Includes 2 nights lodging with all meals. Or stay at a WMNF campground nearby. Hiking, fishing, paddling, biking. Rest, relax or be active. Registration is open, book early to hold spot. Deposit required. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.

PADDLING

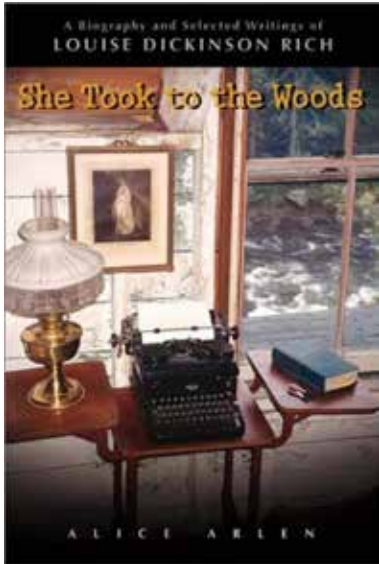
- Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2: Sea Kayak Workshop, Knubble Bay Camp, Georgetown.** Explore Midcoast by kayak, learn ins and outs of sea kayaking day and overnight tripping. \$90.00/person AMC member rate, includes 1 dinner (Sat. lobster dinner), 2 breakfasts, bring own lunches/snacks/beverages. Moderate. Leader: Albert Mandell, (207) 966-1224 (before 10:00 pm) mandell.ah@pg.com.
- Saturday, June 1: Androscoggin River, Brunswick.** Paddle out with tide, lunch on island, back on incoming tide. At least four hours. If weather conditions are not good, we'll go Sunday 6/2. Moderate. Leader: Carolyn Welch, (207) 725-8178, cwelch6789@gmail.com.
- Saturday, June 15: Kayak Self and Assisted Rescue Course, Range Pond State Park, Poland.** Review gear, safety equipment, then hit water to practice wet exits and self and assisted rescue techniques, plus basic paddle strokes. Registration required. Park entry fee. Easy to moderate. Leaders: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us; Albert Mandell, 607-336-2733, mandell.ah@pg.com.
- Tuesday, June 18: Cathance River Paddle and Hike, Topsham.** Easy paddle from Head of Tide on the Cathance River to lower rapids, then hike along river past several rapids on woods trails. Easy. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.
- Thursday, June 20: Leisurely Paddle on Royal River, North Yarmouth.** Leisurely afternoon paddling on Royal River. Easy to moderate. Leader: Michelle Moody, (207) 319-7355, meamc@micstan.us.
- Saturday, June 29: Paddling Saco River, Conway, NH.** Explore 10+ miles of scenic Saco River, learn basic group canoeing skills. Bring your own canoe, paddle, PFD or rent from local outfitters. Easy. Leader: Larry DeHof, (207) 310-8952 (between 7-9 PM), ldehof@access4less.net.
- Friday, July 12 - Sunday, July 14: July 12 - 14: Island Camping, Muscongus Bay.** Camping on Thief Island in Muscongus Bay. Two camp sites. Day trips to nearby islands. \$35.00 includes 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, bring own lunches/snacks/beverages. Moderate. Leader: Albert Mandell, (207) 966-1224 (before 10:00 pm), mandell.ah@pg.com.
- Saturday, July 20: New Meadows River, Brunswick.** Paddle out with tide, lunch on island, back on incoming tide. At least 4 hours on water. If weather conditions are not good, we'll go Sunday 7/21. Moderate. Leader: Carolyn Welch, (207) 725-8178, cwelch6789@gmail.com.
- Friday, September 13 - Sunday, September 15: Sea Kayaking and Island Camping, Stonington.** Best island day tripping in Maine. Camp on mainland at Old Quarry, then out to Harbor or Steve's Island. Day trip throughout Stonington archipelago both days. Moderate. Leader: Albert Mandell, (207) 966-1224 (before 10:00 pm), mandell.ah@pg.com.

BICYCLING

- Thursday, May 23: Bicycling, Minot.** After work cycle through scenic Minot and Hebron on back country roads. Very scenic, but hilly cycling. Swim afterwards. Moderate. Leader: Albert Mandell, 607-336-2733, mandell.ah@pg.com.
- Saturday, June 8: Bicycling, Brunswick Farmer's Market & Coastal Riding.** Great morning of cycling along the coast in Greater Brunswick. 25 - 35 miles at moderate pace. Moderate. Leader: Albert Mandell, 607-336-2733, mandell.ah@pg.com.
- Wednesday, June 12: Waldo County Bike Ride.** Country back roads with rolling hills, great views, and little traffic. 15 miles at moderate pace. Ride begins mid-morning. Moderate. Leader: Judy Oneal, judyoneal@fairpoint.net.
- Wednesday, June 26: Waldo County Bike Ride.** Ride in Searsport/Prospect/Stockton area. 20 miles with rolling hills, great views of bay. Ride begins mid-morning. Moderate. Leader: Judy Oneal, judyoneal@fairpoint.net.

Alice Arlen to Speak on Louise Dickinson Rich, Author of *We Took to the Woods*

An AMC Maine Chapter Evening Program on Tuesday, June 11



Alice Arlen is generally considered to be the foremost biographer on Maine author Louise Dickinson Rich. On Tuesday, June 11 in Brunswick, Arlen will talk to the Chapter about Rich's life and the influence her early writing had on the Maine tourist industry during the sporting camp era.

Louise Dickinson Rich, now an iconic Mainer, was the author of one of the most famous books on life in the Maine woods. Louise Dickinson met her future husband, Ralph Rich, on a canoe trip to

western Maine at age 31. Shortly after marrying, the pair moved to the banks of the Rapid River in Township C to escape city life, and it was from there that Rich experienced the self-reliant Maine life she later chronicled. Their home was inaccessible by road and had no running water. Each gave up their city professions to live there: Louise had been a high school English teacher and Ralph Rich had been a Chicago engineer.

Both Louise and Ralph were competent writers, but it was Louise's writing that generated the largest following and the biggest paychecks. Writing initially for magazines, Louise turned to books, and in 1942, after three years of writing, she published *We Took to the Woods*, an account of their simple life on the river. Rich went on to publish 24 books and become an iconic Mainer who did much to publicize both the state and the beauty of its rural living. This is also ironic since Louise was born in Massachusetts and returned to Massachusetts when her husband died in 1945. Among Rich's other publications are *My Neck of the Woods*, *State O' Maine*, and a series of outdoor adventure books for teens.

Author Alice Arlen, a Registered Maine Guide, became fascinated with Rich while researching and writing books on the early history of Maine sporting camps. Finishing her sporting camp books, she turned her full writing attention to Louise Dickinson Rich. Searching out the best original source material she could find, much of it from Rich's own children, it all came together in a biography published in 2001, titled *She Took to the Woods*. The book includes many of Rich's original writings.

On Tuesday, June 11 at the Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant St, Brunswick, Alice Arlen will bring to life Louise Dickinson Rich by relating facts about Rich's life and telling stories about her early and later years as a young girl, mother, woodswoman, and writer. A potluck dinner will start at 6 PM, followed by Alice's program at 7 PM. Bring a potluck item to share and your own dinnerware (plate, utensils etc.). Drinks will be available. Or, simply come for the talk at 7 PM. Both the potluck and the talk are free and open to the public. See driving directions at www.amcmaine.org under Meetings and Education committee. FMI, email Education Chair John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org.

Go Paperless Wilderness Matters

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

Open Pit Mining in Maine: What You Need to Know

An AMC Maine Chapter Evening Event on April 4 and April 8



Mining activities on Bald Mountain could have substantial negative impact on the surrounding waters, the brook trout population, and other wildlife. Photo courtesy of Isil Flynn.

For the first time in more than a decade, out-of-state mining companies are considering mining for copper, zinc, and other metals in Maine. This could have huge environmental consequences for some of Maine's most pristine and treasured natural areas.

Most of the discussion over the past year has focused on Bald Mountain, owned by J.D. Irving, in central Aroostook County. The impacts on the Bald Mountain area could be enormous. Mining activities there would likely drain into the Fish River and the Fish River Chain of Lakes, which provide some of the best brook trout fishing in the country.

But the risk of open-pit mining extends beyond Bald Mountain. There are many other places in Maine where companies may want to pursue open-pit mining. Natural Resources Council of Maine Staff Scientist Nick Bennett and Jeff Reardon of Trout Unlimited will discuss the major issues associated with open-pit mining, focusing on lessons learned from other states and describing what's ahead here in Maine.

The program, sponsored jointly by Maine Audubon and the Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club, will be held in two locations: **On Thursday, April 4, 2013, Nick and Jeff will talk from 7-8:30 PM at Fields Pond Audubon Center at 216 Fields Pond Rd. in Holden.** And on **Monday, April 8, 2013, they will offer the same program and discussion at Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, 20 Gilsland Farm Rd. in Falmouth.**

At Gilsland Farm, join us for a potluck dinner at 6 PM and our speakers at 7 PM. Bring a potluck item to share and your own dinnerware (plate, utensils etc.). Drinks will be available. Or, simply come for the talk and discussion at 7 PM. Both programs are free and open to the public so bring a friend. Parking is plentiful.

For details on the Fields Pond event, email John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org or Audubon Naturalist Holly Twining at htwining@maineaudubon.org. For details on the Gilsland farm event email, Karen Herold at herold.k@gmail.com or check the calendar at www.amcmaine.org.

Maine AMC on Facebook!



The AMC Maine Chapter now has its own Facebook page. Please "Like" us to share trip photos, trail conditions, tips, and news. Our page will also offer updates on what's happening in Maine environmental issues, in case there is something you can do to help protect the landscapes and waters we all cherish. Find the page by searching for "Maine AMC."

Maine Chapter Member Profiles

This is the fifth in a series of articles intended to remind us of the legacy of the Maine Chapter and of the many early AMC members whose accomplishments built the Chapter. This article is based on an interview and research in the Maine Chapter archives.

Jim Thorne, Chapter Cheerleader Member No. 14995, Life Member since 1975



Jim Thorne cooking at his Moosehead camp in 1988, during his active involvement with the Maine Chapter.

Jim Thorne is a native Mainer who's got a long perspective on AMC and the Maine Chapter. And at 83 now, he likes what he sees.

"A beautiful part of the AMC Maine culture is that people work and volunteer with the Chapter without wanting or needing credit. They help maintain the wonderful Maine experience we all love, make it accessible, fun, and educational to other folks, and have a good time doing it. And they do it from the goodness of their hearts without asking for recognition," said Thorne.

Jim had his share of experiences doing just that when he was active

in Chapter leadership throughout the 1970s and 80s. As Canoe Chair, Vice-Chair, Chair, and then Council representative, Jim had plenty of opportunity to help others enjoy the Maine outdoors experience. As a whitewater canoeist, road biker, cross-country skier, and hiker, Jim was a natural to join the Maine Chapter. He has summited Katahdin numerous times during his life. He's taken many 3-day bike trips with AMCs in Aroostook County, Washington County, Machias, and Bar Harbor. For many years, especially as Canoe Chair, he organized spring water run-off paddling trips down most of the northern Maine rivers.

For Jim, Chapter membership and involvement had an unintended long-term positive effect. First becoming active with the Chapter simply to take advantage of the community of active outdoor people and opportunities the Chapter offered, Jim didn't intend to become friends with other Chapter trip participants, but it happened. Friendships grew, he says, and before he knew it, he was building relationships that he didn't intend. Now many of his longtime and best friends are AMCs.

Jim did much of this with the company and help of his wife of 58 years, Priscilla. Priscilla died just this last Christmas, so Jim has many great memories of Priscilla and the Chapter on which to reflect and share. Priscilla was also a Chapter leader, organizing potlucks and speakers for many years. Together Jim and Priscilla

bought from their family, and then renovated, a large camp on Moosehead Lake that Priscilla's great-grandfather built. This has been their base of operations for many years. From there they've been frequent visitors to the AMC Maine Wilderness Lodges just up the road. As an avid fly fisherman, Jim especially likes Little Lyford and the stunning opportunity the Lyford ponds provide, as well as some of the more hidden lakes and ponds he's visited with Shannon LeRoy, AMC guide and Registered Maine Guide.

As Chapter Chair from 1981-83, Jim recalls that Chapter members were Maine-centric, primarily focused on local activities with little thought or desire given to involvement in the wider AMC Club, and Jim initially bought into this view. But when he was appointed by the Chapter to be on the AMC Council, representing Maine at the Club level, Jim's perspective changed. As a Council member, Jim saw firsthand the benefits of being part of a larger conservation organization with major goals and influence. One of Jim's final personal AMC goals was to convey that perspective to the local Chapter.

What are his thoughts after all these years?

"The Maine Chapter is an incredible group of people, head and shoulders above other similar groups. The volunteers are phenomenal people in their own right and so successful in their Chapter roles."

After 38 years in the Chapter, Jim Thorne is still an AMC lifetime cheerleader.



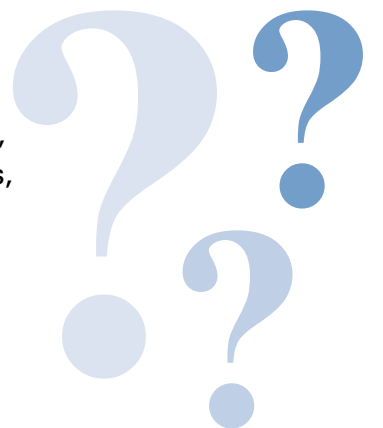
Priscilla and Jim Thorne, here in the Painted Desert, were active Maine Chapter members in the 1970's and 80's.

“What’s the Truth about Tar Sands Coming to Maine?”

You might throw up your hands hearing all the competing claims about tar sands oil. However, with a looming proposal to pipe Alberta tar sands oil through Maine, we have to figure out what's true, and what is our role.

Is tar sands oil more corrosive than the oil now running in the Portland to Montreal pipeline? Proponents say no, opponents say yes. Can the existing pipeline carry tar sands oil without unacceptable risk to the reservoirs, lakes, wetlands, and rivers it passes? Is a tar sands oil spill harder to clean up than a conventional oil spill? What can the state, towns, and citizens do about tar sands? Stepping back, is developing tar sands a necessary solution to world energy demand, or would unlocking the carbon in the extensive Alberta deposits a guarantee that we will warm the climate irredeemably? What are the alternatives?

Dylan Voorhees, Clean Energy Project Director for the Natural Resources Council of Maine, will address these questions at an evening presentation at the **Gilsland Farm Audubon Center in Falmouth on May 30. Optional potluck dinner at 6PM** (bring a plate, utensils, and a food to share), **program starts at 7 PM.**





I'm An AMC Member, Now What?

Volunteer! OK, so you just joined or maybe you've been an inactive member for a while. So, what can you do and how can you help? Many of the activities and the business of the Maine Chapter are offered due to the generosity of many volunteers. You can help by offering your time and talent as a committee member or officer or leader. Just contact any member of the Executive Committee for more information.

Go on Outings! Wow, there are all these great outings! How do I pick the right one for me and what do I do to join them? There's no meeting location or time posted on them, where do I go and when? In order to ensure that participants are choosing the proper outing to meet their goals and abilities, we ask that participants contact the leader(s) posted to get more information, as well as share information about their abilities, gear, typical outing done and any other useful information including medical issues. This will help the leaders help you decide if their outing is a proper fit or to pace the outing to meet everyone's needs.

When emailing a leader, be sure to include your name (it's nice to know who you are), your phone number (we may want to call you), what you usually do for activities (are you up to doing this outing), gear you have for this type of activity (do you have the basic gear needed) and any other useful info you think the leader might want to have.

By sharing this info at the start, you will save us a lot of questions and we may be able to decide right away that this is a good fit for you. But don't be surprised if we call you or email you with more questions, especially if the outing is a more difficult level or a bit complex. What I usually do is send out an information sheet with all the details including all the gear I expect the participants to have. If you don't have the necessary gear, be sure to let us know. We may have something you can use until you decide it's time to buy your own.

Of course the next important part is showing up when and where you are asked to meet. It's frustrating to worry about a participant that never shows and does not call to say they cannot make it. Once on the trail, be courteous and stay with the group even if the pace is a bit slow for you or speak up if you feel you are going too fast. Be ready to get your water and snack when the group stops. Take layers on and off as needed and be sure you have a way to carry them. Enjoy the company of fellow outdoor lovers, talk or enjoy a moment of peace, marvel at a view or the flora and fauna. It's all there for the sharing. Come join us for some fun!

—Michelle Moody, Outings Chair

Trekking the Gaspé with Kish and Leyman

*An AMC Maine Chapter Evening Program on
Tuesday, May 7*

In late summer 2012, Carey Kish and Fran Leyman embarked on an 8-day, 70-mile trek on the International Appalachian Trail (IAT) through Gaspésie National Park. Gaspésie is a vast expanse of high summits, alpine tundra, dramatic escarpments, deep valleys, old growth forests and pristine waters located just inland from the St. Lawrence River on the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec. It is also home to a remnant herd of woodland caribou, as well as moose, deer, black bear and hundreds of bird species. The park's "Grand Traverse" was the pair's goal, and carrying relatively light packs and staying in simple but comfy backcountry refuges, Kish and Leyman enjoyed a magnificent walk.

In the park the IAT connects Mont Logan to Mont Albert, both of which feature extensive alpine terrain and the good possibility of spotting caribou. In between are miles of excellent ridge walking with great views and good swimming. The final two days of the trek were over the alpine summit of Mont Jacques-Cartier with grand panoramic vistas from the enclosed observation tower, then Mont Xalibu and Lac aux Américains to the end.

The refuges are spaced a good day's walk apart. Each well-maintained outpost has bunk space for eight, table and chairs, woodstove, water source and privy. You need only carry a sleeping bag; no tent or mattress necessary. Three food drops en route meant never having to pack more than two days food.

On Tuesday, May 7 at 7 PM at Fields Pond Nature Center in Holden (just outside of Bangor), Kish and Leyman will show images, describe their adventure, and give advice on replicating it. This program is jointly sponsored by the Fields Pond Audubon Center and by the Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. For more information, email John Mullens at education@amcmaine.org or Holly Twining at htwining@maineaudubon.org



Fran Leyman enjoys the view from atop Pic de l'Aube on the International Appalachian Trail in Gaspésie National Park, Quebec.

Looking to Get on the Water this Season?

Hey paddlers, here are some places and dates where you can try out a boat and learn new skills. Check out our calendar listings at www.amcmaine.org for more opportunities to learn paddling skills.

Kittery Trading Post*

April 19-21: Show at UNH, Durham, NH
May 18: Springhill, South Berwick (try boats)
June 14-16: Tent Sale

L.L. Bean

June 8-9: Paddle Fest – try boats and more

Lincoln Canoe and Kayak*

Anytime in their pond

Seaspray Kayaking*

Anytime in the New Meadows River

Canoe Symposium

June 7-9: Fryeburg
FMI, www.maineconoesymposium.org

Eastern Mountain Sports*

May 3-4: Club Days – discounts June 29:
Check with S. Portland store

*These outfitters offer discounts to AMC members.

Log in to the Member Center for more info.





Do Something for Earth Week!

Free Local Screening of Carbon Nation
 Thursday, April 25, 7 PM (6 PM Potluck)
 Gilsland Farm, 20 Gilsland Farm Road, Falmouth, ME

Sponsored by AMC Maine Chapter and Maine Audubon

Even if you doubt the severity of the impact of climate change or just don't buy it at all, this is a compelling and relevant documentary film that illustrates how SOLUTIONS to climate change also address other social, economic, and national security issues. The film introduces us to a host of entertaining and endearing characters along the way, while enlightening us about our current situation, dangers of our present trajectory, and a possible way forward.

Audubon Director of Conservation Sally Stockwell will respond to questions and provide a brief background of local efforts to reverse climate change.

Come at 6 PM with a potluck item to share and your own dinnerware (plate, utensils etc.). Drinks will be available. See driving directions at www.amcmaine.org under Meetings and Education Committee. FMI, ksanders@maineaudubon.org.



Out and About..
Recent Trips and Workshops



Join us!
 See listings inside..



Top Descending East Baldpate. Photo by Bill Brook

Left Cranberry Peak. Photo by Laura Flight.

Below, top to bottom Baldpate, east peak. Photo by Bill Brook.

Burnt Mountain summit. Photo by Jeff Aceto.
 Descending Burnt Mountain. Photo by Jeff Aceto.

Coastal Hikes Wanted for New Book!

I'm working on a new guidebook for the AMC Best Day Hikes Series that will cover 50 of the best day hikes along the coast of Maine from Kittery to Lubec. So, if you've got a few favorites, some exceptional hikes that you'd like me to check out for inclusion, please let me know and I'll add them to my list. I'll be out hiking the coastal trails all this summer by day, and hunkered down writing it all up by night. Your input will be a big help, and you'll get credit in the book to boot. Thanks!
Contact: Carey Kish, maineoutdoors@aol.com, (207) 838-9669.

Young Members Outings
Mt. Kearsarge North & Mt. Pierce



The Young Members of the AMC Chapter enjoyed hikes to Mt. Kearsarge North and Mt. Pierce in New Hampshire this past January. On the trip to Kearsarge, the trail was mostly hard packed, the sun was shining, and the hikers enjoyed their lunch in the

enclosed fire tower at the summit that also offered 360 degree views. The hike to Pierce took place during an unseasonably mild day for January, allowing the group to linger at the summit and take in some breathtaking views of the Presidential range nearby.

