



## White Mountains Interpretive Association

P.O. Box 1871, Conway, NH 03818

Email: [wmiaofnh@gmail.com](mailto:wmiaofnh@gmail.com)

[www.WMIAofNH.org](http://www.WMIAofNH.org)

603-452-5148

### Spring Newsletter, 2012

The White Mountains Interpretive Association (WMIA) exists to encourage visitors to understand and appreciate our forest resources. The WMIA was the 2006 recipient of the National Association for Interpretation's "Excellence in Interpretive Support" Award.

#### Board of Directors

Ken Rancourt—President  
Doug Somerville—Vice President  
Bob Smith—Secretary  
Doug Somerville—Treasurer  
Carol Felice  
Kathy Somerville  
Tiffany Benna— Public Affairs Officer  
and Partnership Coordinator, WMNF

*Board meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month.*

#### Our New Website! [www.WMIAofNH.org](http://www.WMIAofNH.org)



The WMIA recently launched a website in an effort to better attract and communicate with members. Please take a moment and check out the new site at [www.WMIAofNH.org](http://www.WMIAofNH.org). Please be patient as parts of the site are still under construction but our volunteers will make every effort to keep it updated. Many thanks goes to VP Doug Somerville for his efforts in creating this site.

#### Calendar

May 19th—Members tour of the Brickett Place and CCC site  
May 20th—opening and cleaning of the Russell-Colbath Historic home  
June 30th—Campground programs begin

#### Funding to Repair Damage by Hurricane Irene

CAMPTON — The U.S. Forest Service has received more than \$4 million in disaster relief funding to repair trails and roads on the White Mountain National Forest that were damaged by Tropical Storm Irene last August, U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) announced recently. "Hurricane Irene had a devastating impact on many areas in the state and these funds will ensure that repair work can be completed," Shaheen said. "These roads and trails need to be repaired so residents and tourists can safely access the great resources offered by the White Mountain National Forest."



*Kancamagus washed out by Irene.*

Forest service supervisor Tom Wagner hailed the awarding of the funding. "We welcome the news that funds have been made available to assist with the storm recovery efforts in the White Mountain National Forest," said Wagner. "These funds will enable us to continue the work on damaged roads, bridges and trails from the August 2011 storm. We ask for the public's understanding and patience as we restore public access over the next two to three years."

The \$4,046,814 comes through the Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads program, which helps agencies deal with the high cost of repairing federally-owned roads damaged by natural disasters. The money will be used to repair trails and roads including the Lincoln Woods Trail, Rocky Gorge Trail and Sabbaday Falls Trails as well the Kancamagus Highway, Mad River Road, Rocky Branch Road and Pinkham B Road. More than 40 trails were impacted by Hurricane Irene.

Many trails are still closed or damaged by the hurricane and the Forest Service has posted a list of closed trails on their website.

### **Members Only Field Trip**

The WMIA Board of Directors is planning a Field Trip to the newly restored Brickett House (c.1830) and to the historic CCC campsite located right across the street from the Brickett House. This trip will be lead by WMIA Board Member Bob Smith who has volunteered as an interpreter and guide at the Brickett House for many years. The Field Trip, open to WMIA members and their guests, will take place Saturday May 19, 2012. We will meet at the Brickett Place at 9:00 am to tour the house and then stroll across the street to explore the old CCC Camp. Those who would like to stay are invited to bring a picnic lunch which we can enjoy back at the house before we do some yard work and spring cleaning.

Directions: The Brickett Place is located on Route 113 in Stow, Maine, (Evans Notch Road), about 1/4 mile north of the road to Basin Pond.



### **Forest Service Seeking Volunteers**

The U.S. Forest Service is looking for volunteers to help at the Saco Ranger Station on the Kancamagus Scenic Byway in Conway. The Forest Service is seeking volunteers willing to provide customer service, greeting visitors and responding to phone inquiries at the Saco Ranger Station. Volunteers can enjoy work that fits their interests and schedule.

Also, as many may recall, tropical storm Irene came through the White Mountains in August 2011, and dumped an overwhelming amount of rain. Thankfully, the region was not affected by high winds, but the sudden deluge eroded several roads and trails, washed away bridges, and redirected sections of streams and rivers.

If you want to give back to the Forest you love, consider registering for a volunteer project. If you are interested, contact the Saco Ranger District at 603-447-5448 x109

### **Summer Campground Programs**

Campground Programs, designed to inform and educate the public, have been scheduled for the upcoming summer season. Ten programs have been scheduled for each site in the forest, these being Dolly Copp Campground, Camp-ton Campground, Russell Pond Campground, and the Russell-Colbath Barn by Jigger Johnson Campground.



Some of the programs, back by popular demand, are 19th Century Music by Bob Kilham, Wildlife Photography by B. Fairbrother, and Yankee Lumberjack by Dick Fortin. There will be additional new programs to educate the public about bear safety and awareness, use of sled dogs in the National Forest and stories of the ghosts on Mt. Washington.

### **Interpreter at the RC House**

A costumed interpreter will staff the Russell-Colbath House weekends during the summer season, portraying daily life in the White Mountains during the 19th century. Due to budget reductions, the WMIA was forced to reduce the interpreter's hours to weekends only. Volunteers will be used to open the house to the public for additional hours during the week.

Interested in volunteering at the historic home on the Kancamagus? Please call 603-447-5448 or email us.

### **Important Message from the Board ...**

Like many other non-profit organizations, in these trying economic times we need to stretch our limited resources to try and provide as many educational and interpretive opportunities as possible within the WMNF. We especially need additional members on the Board of Directors. If you are a member of the White Mountain Interpretive Association, consider joining us on the Board of Directors, or if you have a friend who might be interested in the White Mountain National Forest, please encourage him or her to join the WMIA. If you or a friend is interested in volunteering in any capacity we have a spot for you. Please call or email us at [wmiaofnh@gmail.com](mailto:wmiaofnh@gmail.com).



**Places to Visit:**

**Ripley Falls**

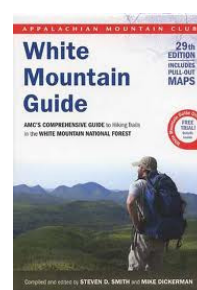


Distance: 1.2 miles • Time: 1 hour  
 Side road off Route 302 in Crawford Notch, 1 mile south of Willey House site. Start on Ethan pond Trail, then follow Arethusa-Ripley Falls Trail 6/10 of a mile and 400 vertical feet to the gorgeous 100 foot waterfall.

Ripley Falls is the kind of waterfall that will stand on its own as a destination, but has so many other good waterfalls nearby that it doesn't have to. Ripley Falls is a neighbor to Arethusa Falls, Coliseum Falls, Bemis Brook Falls, Kedron Flume, Nancy Cascades, not to mention the waterfalls at the Gates of the Notch. Ripley Falls has a signed trail head, ample parking, and the hike is pretty easy.

**New Items for Sale!**

White Mountain Guide, 29th:  
 AMC's Comprehensive Guide to Hiking Trails in the White Mountain National Forest (Appalachian Mountain Club White Mountain Guide) by Steven D. Smith and Mike Dickerman (Apr 17, 2012)



T-shirts, including new glow-in-the dark firefly t-shirts for children, hats, fleece vests and children's toys are also available.



New trail maps for all parts of the White Mountains are also available and with your membership card you will receive a discount.

*All members receive a 15% discount on items at the WMIA shops. All proceeds go towards our educational and interpretive programs throughout the WMNF.*

**Board Members Needed**

Due to recent retirements, there are several openings on the Board of Directors and we are seeking members to share ideas for activities and help out at one meeting per month. Email or call if you are interested 603-452-5148.

**Membership**

The WMIA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that promotes and funds historic, educational and scientific programs on the White Mountain National Forest. The WMIA is supported by membership dues, donations, and sales at ranger stations. All contributions are tax deductible.

Already a member? Please pass this newsletter along to a friend or neighbor who may be interested in joining.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership level:  
 (check one)

Supporter (Individual)...\$15.00 [ ]

Defender (Family).....\$25.00 [ ]

Guardian.....\$50.00 [ ]

Believer.....\$100.00 [ ]

Enhancer.....\$150.00 [ ]

(Please include email address to receive newsletters and calendars.)