



White Mountains Interpretive Association

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Spring Newsletter, 2010

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.

Upcoming events in 2010...

A number of events and activities are being planned for the summer 2010 season. Some of these will be a repeat of past favorites while some will be exciting new activities. They will include: Campground programs on topics such as:

- ◆ Wildlife Photography
- ◆ Loons of the WMNF
- ◆ Behavior of the Eastern Coyote
- ◆ Yankee Lumberjack: Logging History
- ◆ Mountaineering and Mountain Rescue
- ◆ Edible and Medicinal plants in the WMNF
- ◆ Turtles

Very special programs to watch for:

July 3-4 Living History Civil War Encampment with artillery demonstration at the Russell-Colbath Historic Site field.

Sept. 11 NH Spinners will demonstrate spinning in the RC Homestead.

Sept. 18 A local cooper will demonstrate making barrels and buckets by hand in the RC Barn.

The Russell Colbath House will be re-roofed and have walls repaired and painted.



Successful Programs

Last year the WMIA sponsored a number of successful programs, including:

- ◆ Campground programs— Programs were held every Saturday night at campgrounds throughout the White Mountain National Forest. These programs included topics such as: Edible Plants in the WMNF, Moose: Monarch of the North, Skins & Skulls of Mammals in the White Mountains, and many more.
- ◆ Kancamagus 50th Anniversary Celebrations
- ◆ Interpreter at the RC House—A costumed interpreter staffed the Russell Colbath House during the summer season, portraying daily life in the White Mountains during the 19th century.
- ◆ Herb garden at the Russell Colbath House—a garden with kitchen and medicinal herbs commonly used during the 19th century was planted and maintained at the Russell Colbath homestead. The success of this garden was described in an article in the Manchester Union Leader.
- ◆ Assisted the Bartlett Recreation Dept. with group programs.



50th Anniversary of the Kancamagus Highway

On Friday, August 14, 2009 the Kancamagus Highway celebrated its 50th anniversary. By the 1930s, the WMNF had been established and work was begun by the Civilian Conservation Corps on a road to connect Lincoln to Conway. Work halted during WWII, but by 1955 work had progressed past the 2855 ft. high Kancamagus Pass and was completed in 1959. To commemorate this anniversary, the WMNF, the White Mountains Interpretive Assoc., the White Mountains Attractions Assoc. and other partners planned a day of activities and programs at the Russell Colbath Barn and House. Historical photos and speakers helped to share memories of the construction of the famous scenic highway. Over 200 people attended the official celebrations at the Barn, while more than 400 visitors were given tours of the Russell Colbath House by WMIA interpreters.



Protecting the Forest: 100 years of the Weeks Act of 1911

The White Mountain National Forest is gearing up for the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Act. On April 3, 2010, the Androscoggin Ranger District celebrated this legislation by hosting a Tree Identification Walk through the historic Dolly Copp Campground. The Weeks Act was passed by Congress in 1911 and authorized the federal government to purchase and maintain lands as National Forests. In 1914, the first land parcels were purchased under the Weeks Act and the White Mountain National Forest was formed soon after in 1918. New Hampshire lands were among the first protected by the Weeks Act, named for New Hampshire native and Massachusetts Congressman John W. Weeks. Plymouth State University has planned a series of lectures on the impact of the Weeks Act and more events are being planned throughout the White Mountain National Forest.

Brickett House Restoration Planned

The historic Brickett House located on the Evans Notch Rd. (Rt. 113) in Stow, ME is a 19th century historic brick farmhouse. On the National Historic Register, it is undergoing extensive renovations in which windows will be repaired, structural and foundation repairs will be made, and cracked walls will be fixed. This work is being done as part of a special grant with U.S. Park Service restoration specialists.



Volunteers Needed!

The WMIA and the Forest Service are in need of volunteers to:

- Maintain hiking trails
- Work on trail signs
- Water and weed garden at the RC House
- Painting interior of the RC House
- Assist with interpretive programs
- Visitor information
- Presenting Conservation Education programs

For specific job descriptions contact the WMIA or the Forest Service.

Interested?

Call 603-447-5448 or check out the Forest Service website at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/white_mountain/volunteering/

Where locals love to tread...

Boulder Loop Trail



This 3.1 mile loop trail is rated as easy to moderate with a few steep spots. The trailhead is located off the Kancamagus Hwy. on the Dugway Road by the Covered Bridge Campground. As you follow the trail up to the ledges which overlook the Swift River Valley you will see a tumble of granite left by the glaciers some 10,000 years ago. This hike provides gorgeous views of Mt. Chocurua, Mt. Passaconaway and Middle Sister.

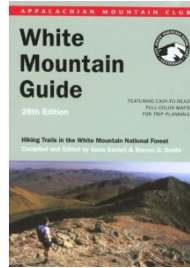
This trail usually takes 2-4 hours and is recommended year 'round as great for a snowshoe or regular hike.

Vacancy on the WMIA Board of Directors

There are openings on the Board of Directors and we are seeking members to help out at one meeting per month. Email or call if you are interested.

Books and Gift Items

Check out the new gifts, books and apparel available at the WMIA shops in the Ranger Stations.



AMC White Mountain Guide, 28th Centennial Edition. Most comprehensive guide available to the hiking trails of the White Mountains.

T-shirts, hats, fleece vests and children's toys are also available.



All members receive a 15% discount on items at the WMIA shops.

Be sure to visit the new state-of-the-art energy efficient Pemigewasset Ranger Station at 71 White Mountain Drive, Campton, NH at exit 27 off Rt. I-93. While you are there, check out the new WMIA shop in the main lobby for gift items.

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.

Membership level:
(check one)

Name: _____

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

Address: _____

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

Guardian.....\$50.00 []

Phone: _____

Believer.....\$100.00 []

Email address: _____

Enhancer.....\$150.00 []

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