

TWO DECADES OF FOREVER WILD



FRIENDS OF BAXTER STATE PARK

WELCOME, FRIENDS

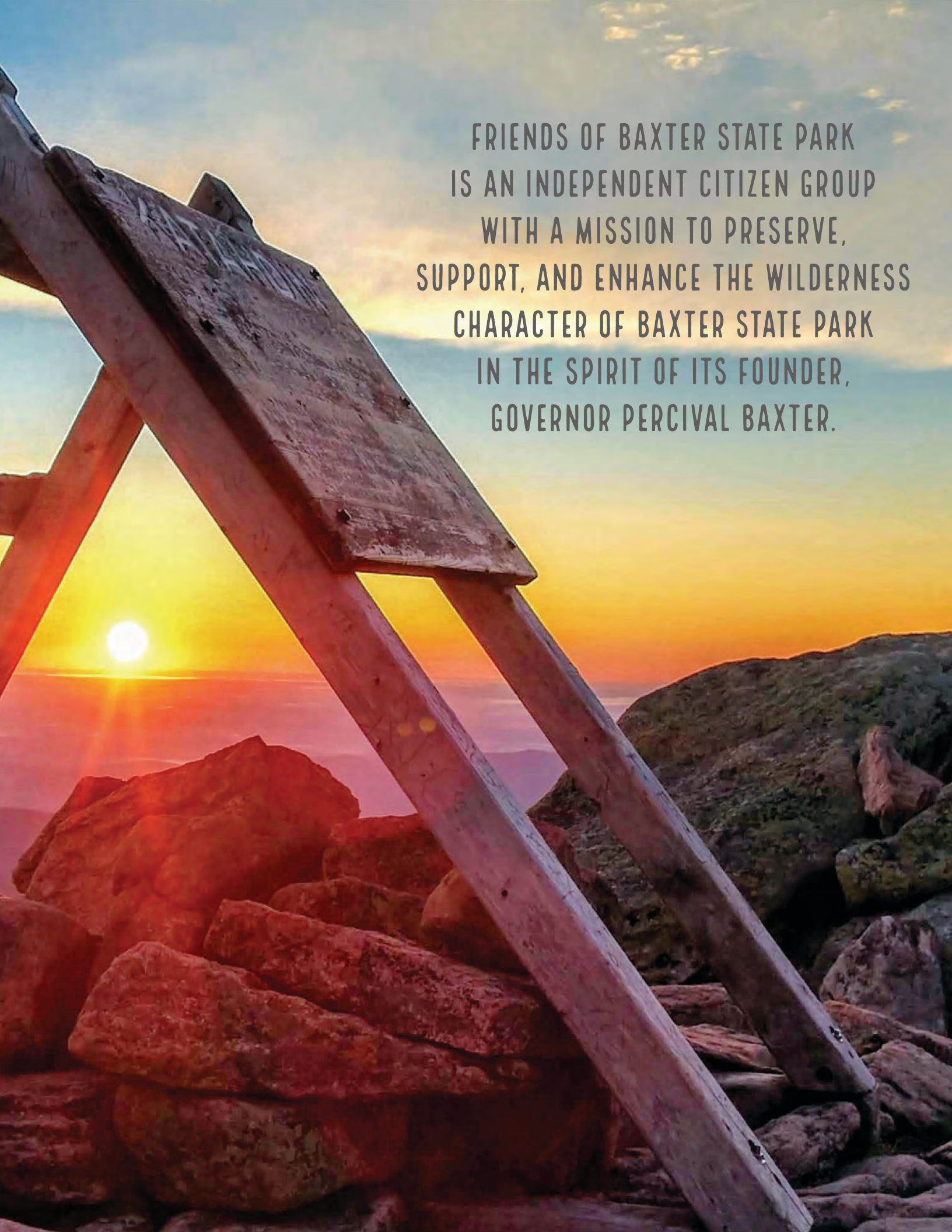
As Friends of Baxter State Park approached its twenty-year milestone, we were eager to honor our founders and celebrate our achievements over the past two decades. We also wanted to gaze clear-eyed into the future – ours as an organization, as well as the future of the wilderness we love so dearly.

In 2019, we began planning a 20th anniversary celebration for July 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic upended those plans, as it did to so many others. We postponed to September 2021 and swapped a 20th anniversary for a 21st. With just a few weeks to go and the Delta variant surging across the state, we canceled our in-person celebration and shifted to a virtual event.

Pandemic or not, our work goes on. This publication will stand as a record of the particular moment we find ourselves in. We are deeply fortunate that many founders of our organization are still loyal members 21 years later. We have also welcomed nearly 750 new members in the last two years. With a solid foundation and a strong infusion of new energy, we are growing by leaps and bounds. The achievements you read about in these pages are the work and legacy of all of us.

Whether you have been a member for twenty years or are just joining, we are so glad you are here. Thank you for being part of our community of support for Baxter State Park.

AARON MEGQUIER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A photograph of a wooden structure, possibly a shelter or a marker, built on a rocky hillside. The structure is made of weathered wooden planks and beams. The sun is setting in the background, creating a warm, orange and yellow glow. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. The foreground is filled with large, reddish-brown rocks.

FRIENDS OF BAXTER STATE PARK
IS AN INDEPENDENT CITIZEN GROUP
WITH A MISSION TO PRESERVE,
SUPPORT, AND ENHANCE THE WILDERNESS
CHARACTER OF BAXTER STATE PARK
IN THE SPIRIT OF ITS FOUNDER,
GOVERNOR PERCIVAL BAXTER.

A BRIEF HISTORY BY CHARLIE JACOBI

In 1998, the Baxter State Park Authority decided to allow hunting but prohibit vehicle access on the newly acquired West Branch Lands. This decision prompted Baxter State Park lovers to form a Friends group to defend the wilderness and wildlife sanctuary mission of the Park. In 2000, Friends of Baxter State Park incorporated with more than 100 founding members to speak up and do good for the Park.

Early on, we organized administratively and started our important and continuing Park education. We attended Authority and Advisory meetings. We boned up on Park history. We began to develop a relationship of trust with Director Buzz Caverly and toured the park with him. Park staff spoke at our annual meetings. We contributed financially to the Park with an unrestricted gift in 2004 that was used to support volunteers and more. And we began to respectfully voice our positions on Park issues to the Authority, our members, and the public.

We met with new director Jensen Bissell in 2005 to continue developing our working relationship. As we matured, so did our contributions. Howard Whitcomb's four-volume *Percival P. Baxter's Vision for Baxter State Park* proved to be a critical and enduring resource for the Authority and Park staff. *Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession* followed a few years later. Our critical role in the fundraising and advocacy for Katahdin Lake further established our credibility and made us known throughout Maine. Under the leadership of Linda McKee, Friends launched the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program in 2009. Barbara Bentley got the first of many grants to support trail work in the Park by the Maine Conservation Corps. We collaborated with Glen Mittelhauser to support the research for and publication of *The Plants of Baxter State Park*, an invaluable resource for Park managers and visitors.

After 13 years as a board-driven volunteer organization, Aaron Megquier became our first Executive Director in May 2013. Aaron's leadership led to more grants, a membership coordinator, new mountain models, and a stronger presence in the Millinocket community. We engaged with Roxanne Quimby about her national park proposal and subsequently supported the creation of Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. Aaron brought together stakeholders over challenges with the Appalachian Trail and led our efforts to educate long-distance hikers. He launched the new Baxter Youth Conservation Corps for area high school youth and has collaborated effectively with Park Directors Jensen Bissell and Eben Sypitkowski. Our own staff has grown recently with the hire of a new deputy director and communications and outreach coordinator. You'll learn more about our history and accomplishments throughout this publication.

Of course, there is much more to come.



Percival P. Baxter is our foremost conservationist. He was a pioneer whose voice pleaded for wilderness values when exploitation was the theme of the day. Biologist, botanist, ecologist – he has helped educate two generations of Americans on the spiritual values of the outdoors, of free flowing rivers, of alpine meadows, of cold pure springs.¹

– Justice William O. Douglas

PERCIVAL PROCTOR BAXTER 20TH CENTURY VISIONARY BY HOWARD WHITCOMB

On an August day in 1920, Percival P. Baxter found himself crawling across a knife-edge arête as he approached the summit of Katahdin, which rises out of the great north woods of Maine. He was part of an expedition of friends and political figures determined to preserve the highest peak in the State of Maine. The expedition's itinerary included crossings of both the East Branch of the Penobscot and the Wassataquoik Stream, and then the trek from Katahdin Lake to Chimney Pond.

From Chimney Pond, Baxter's party ascended the mountain via Pamola Peak and headed for the summit via the aforementioned arête. In those moments, on what came to be known as the Knife Edge, the magnificence of the mountain and its surrounding region was reaffirmed in the mind of the future governor of Maine, a sense that never left him. Upon reaching the summit, Baxter said, "I wouldn't do it again for a million; I wouldn't have missed it for a million."²

A WILDERNESS LEGACY

BY JOHN NEFF

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of Friends of Baxter State Park, it is important to reflect on the significant forces and underlying convictions that led to its birth. In so doing, we will be reminded of our abiding mission to help ensure this hallowed part of Maine, embraced by Governor Percival P. Baxter, embodied by Baxter State Park, and watched over by Friends of Baxter State Park, will remain forever wild.

First, let us be reminded of the great wilderness traditions upon which we have built our present efforts. That begins, of course, with our Native American brothers and sisters who revered the sacred places all around them. Sadly, later non-native settlers did not always honor those wilderness places. As the new nation matured, the idea that wilderness should be tamed and brought to cultivation and usefulness gave way to a greater vision that celebrated wilderness and sought to preserve and protect it. We now celebrate many of the views expressed by John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt, Henry David Thoreau, and others. These convictions are enshrined in the ringing words of the Wilderness Act of 1964:

A Wilderness must retain its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvement or human habitation...protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions...³



Inscription Rock in 1886 during logging operations on Wassataquoik Stream.



A wise governor of Maine in the 1920s became a willing inheritor of those deeply held convictions. Percival P. Baxter put it simply:

This 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."⁴

We must never forget Baxter's heroic commitment that resulted in the 209,644-acre park that bears his name. Our mission may be but one thread in a great national tapestry of wilderness, but it is a vitally important one. During his own Katahdin encounter in 1920, Baxter declared that this wilderness must be protected. That must continue to be our mantra as well.



Friends of Baxter State Park has and will continue to play a critical role in the preservation of this wilderness park. There are thousands who visit the park whose lives are touched by its glories. There are also those who may never enter the park themselves, but just knowing it exists, their lives will be enriched by its enfolding wilderness arms. Let us embrace once again this inspiring role to which we have been called. I am confident that in the next twenty years, we will continue to be creative and helpful partners, supporters, and benevolent critics of the management of this remarkable wilderness tract in our midst.

Inscription Rock in 2021, showing the return of wildness to the Wassataquoik Valley.

BUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE KATAHDIN REGION

BY AARON MEGQUIER

The Katahdin region has experienced profound changes since Friends was founded in 2000. The booming industrial economy that earned Millinocket the nickname of “Magic City” sputtered, faded, and then disappeared entirely. Since the collapse of its papermaking industry a decade ago, the Katahdin region has been struggling to stay afloat. Some outdoor recreation businesses have been thriving – and helping to build a diversified economy – but change is hard, and it comes slowly. In 2014, Friends sponsored a speaker series in Millinocket focused on recreation and nature-based tourism because few others seemed to be talking about it.

The Katahdin Collaborative formed out of that near-vacuum in early 2015. What began as a small roundtable forum for networking and brainstorming steadily grew into something more. Within two years, the Collaborative had attracted the attention of key funders and was developing a process to engage the entire region in a shared vision for the future. That year-long effort – known as *The Katahdin Gazetteer* – was completed successfully in April 2019. The region now has a clear roadmap to a more sustainable and vibrant future. Friends has been an active participant in this work since 2016.

Why is this relevant for Baxter State Park? Protected areas around the world are influenced by economic and social conditions outside their boundaries, and Baxter State Park is no exception. The Park cannot thrive if the communities surrounding it are suffering – it’s that simple. The Park needs livable communities for staff to call home, which means everything from affordable housing to good schools and hospitals. It needs places to buy truck parts, fast internet service to power the online reservations system, and skilled contractors to help maintain roads and bridges. If these services are spotty or unavailable, it is very difficult for the Park to fulfill its forever wild mission.

Thanks to the hard work of so many people, the Katahdin region is finally on the upswing. Good news is coming in a steady stream, and bad news has slowed to a trickle. Wonderful local nonprofits like Our Katahdin are steadily moving things in a positive direction.



A few months before the start of the pandemic, Baxter State Park hosted a meeting of the Katahdin Collaborative. It was standing room only, with more than 40 leaders from local and state government, nonprofits, foundations, and local businesses sharing ideas and working together. The room was humming with energy and positive momentum. It was an evening that bodes well for the future and that all members of Friends of Baxter State Park can be proud of.

The ongoing revitalization of the Katahdin region is a powerful example of what we can achieve when we put aside our differences in favor of common ground and a shared vision. Crossing the boundary into Baxter State Park still feels like entering into another world – and we will continue working tirelessly to keep it that way – but it sure helps that the world outside is getting a little brighter.

SAVING KATAHDIN LAKE

BY JYM ST. PIERRE



On December 15, 2006, after a heated public debate and challenging fundraising campaign, Maine Governor John Baldacci announced the addition to Baxter State Park of more than 4,000 acres around Katahdin Lake. Saving Katahdin Lake was no walk in the park.

For millennia, Katahdin and the surrounding region was the ancestral home of the Wabanaki people. More than two centuries ago, it attracted the first white explorers. Katahdin Lake has itself been a magnet for artists, adventurers, timber men, and sportsmen for 150 years.

Artists Frederic Church (1852) and Marsden Hartley (1939), and today's David Little, Michael Vermette, and Evelyn Dunphy all made their way to its shores. Reverend Marcus Keep cut a trail from Katahdin Lake to a slide on Pamola in 1848, providing access to the ridge that now bears his name. Henry David Thoreau intended to climb Katahdin via its namesake lake while on a trip down the Penobscot River in 1857. However, his plans were foiled "on account of the sore feet of my companion."⁵ Teddy Roosevelt did not let out-of-shape companions stop him. He passed through on an epic trek up Katahdin in 1879. An Appalachian Mountain Club party of nine men, ten women, and five guides camped at Katahdin Lake in 1887.

Loggers Lang and Jones hacked a rough road to Katahdin Lake in the early 1870s. They also built the first sporting camp there. A second sporting camp was opened by Madison Tracy and John Cushman in the late 1880s, which would later become Katahdin Lake Camps.



Percival Baxter made his 1920 climb of Katahdin via Katahdin Lake. A year later, he proposed a state park that would include “Katahdin Lake...one of the most beautiful of all Maine’s lakes.”⁶ Baxter succeeded in capturing all the great peaks in the Katahdin cluster but was unable to bring Katahdin Lake into his wilderness preserve.

In the end, it took the combined efforts of scores of heroes, most of them unsung, to negotiate complex legal and political deals and raise \$14 million for the land before achieving the long-standing goal of bringing Katahdin Lake into Baxter State Park.

Friends of Baxter State Park played a key role in this preservation effort, working closely with the Maine Department of Conservation and The Trust for Public Land, which coordinated the fundraising. Thanks to the scholarship of Howard Whitcomb, Friends provided crucial testimony to ensure legislative support and helped persuade the Baxter State Park Authority to accept the property.

Two private inholdings remained along the lake at the Katahdin Brook outlet. In 2012, Huber Resources Corp donated its 143 acres, and in 2013 the heirs of James Sewall gave a conservation easement on their 43-acre parcel. Finally, all of the lands around Katahdin Lake were permanently protected. In 2021, a century after Percival Baxter first formally proposed a state park including Katahdin Lake, the area is a favorite destination for hikers, campers, anglers, and wildlife watchers.



THE GENERATIONAL WORK OF WILDERNESS

BY AARON MEGQUIER



Forever is a long time, and a forever wild mission means constantly taking the long view. Soon after our founding, Friends began seeking ways to inspire the next generation of wilderness stewards. Through the vision and hard work of Board member Linda McKee, Friends launched the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program in 2009. This program strives to inspire and cultivate the next generation of Maine's wilderness leaders – think societal leadership along the lines of Rachel Carson, Aldo Leopold, and Margaret Murie.



The program model is deceptively simple. First, select a group of Maine sophomores and juniors with leadership skills and a passion for wilderness. Second, get the ideas flowing with reading and writing assignments about wilderness leaders who have come before. Next, send the group on a nine-day backpacking expedition in Baxter State Park accompanied by skilled leaders from The Chewonki Foundation. Arrange a series of workshops along the way with expert instructors in botany, geology, Native culture, painting, Park history, and more. Finally, encourage each participant to share their learning after they return home with a presentation in their school or community.



Our goal is to plant seeds that will bear fruit over a lifetime. This program happens at a critical juncture for our participants: halfway through high school, when the future is unwritten but full of possibility, and when a single inspiring day in the wilderness can change the course of a life.

Twelve years later, the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program has graduated 118 alumni and continues to thrive. Many of our graduates describe it as one of the best experiences of their lives. Friends is committed to offering this program at no cost so youth from all socioeconomic backgrounds can participate.

Another stroke of genius by a Board member launched our second major youth program, the Baxter Youth Conservation Corps. When we gathered in 2015 for our fall retreat at Camp Phoenix on Nesowadnehunk Lake, our Board was wrestling with the best way to provide trail support to the Park, and also considering expansion of our youth programs. As we talked around the woodstove, Gary Friedmann fused those needs into one cohesive idea: a youth trail crew drawn from the communities of the Katahdin region. By the end of the retreat, our Board had sketched out a vision for the Baxter Youth Conservation Corps (BYCC).

After a year of fundraising and program development, we launched the BYCC in 2017. Our Millinocket-based crew spent two weeks working on trails in the Katahdin Lake area. The program was a hit with participants, community members, and Park staff. We doubled the size of the program in 2018 to 20 local youth and four adult leaders, with a second crew based in Patten. In 2019, we expanded the program by another 50% to six weeks in total. Through all of this growth, the program received outstanding feedback from the youth we serve: 95% of our participants in 2019 said that the program helped to advance their career or educational goals, and 100% said that they would recommend the program to other students.

The COVID-19 pandemic put a damper on our growth plans in 2020 and 2021. We have been able to offer a modified, socially-distant version of the program during the pandemic called our BYCC Conservation Fellows. Each summer, we hired eight seniors and recent graduates from the Katahdin region for this opportunity. Each Fellow completed an independent study in the Park, as well as writing, photography, and video projects. This program has been such a success that we plan to make it a permanent offering.

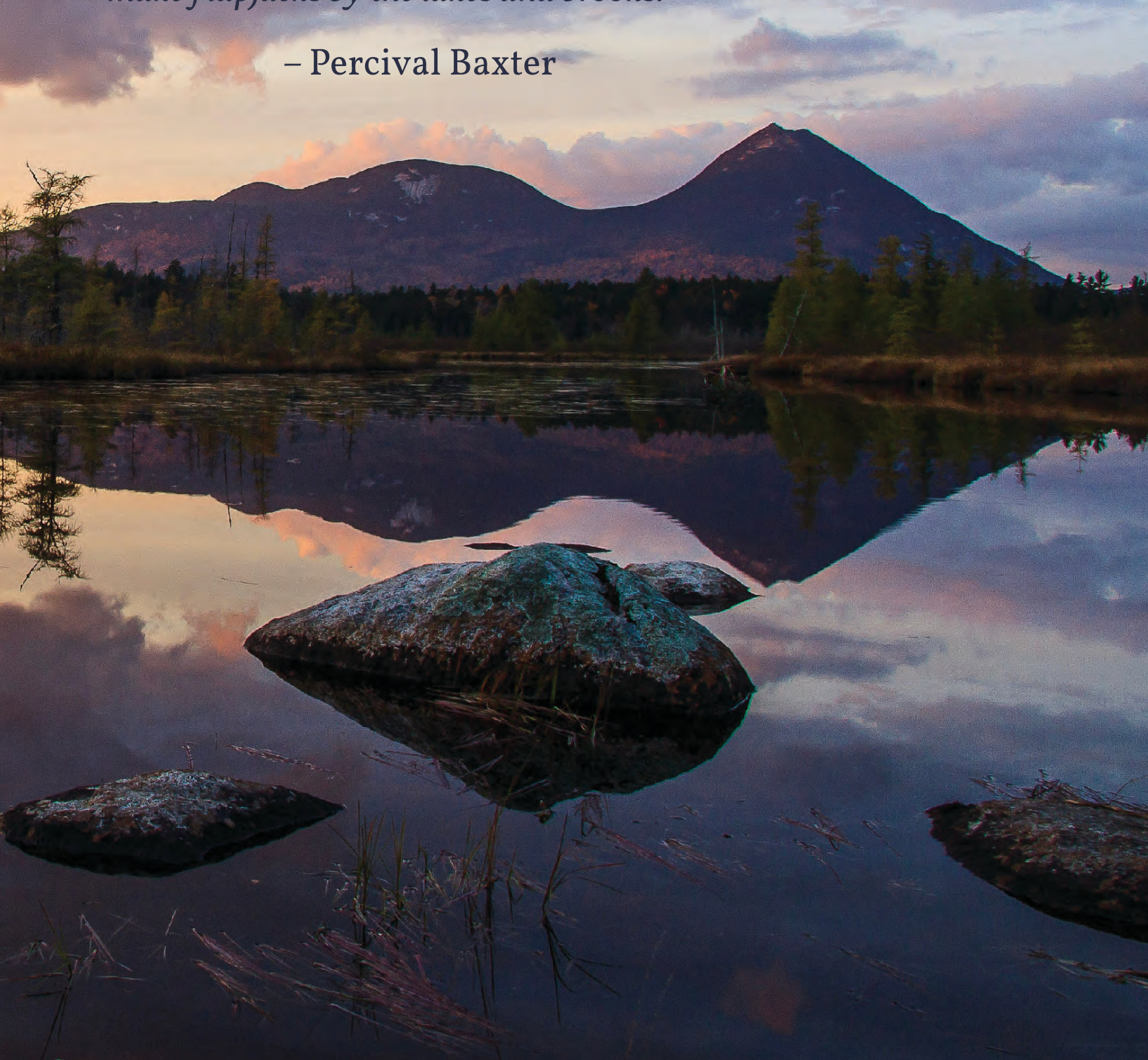
The BYCC is also designed to serve as a launching pad to career opportunities. In addition to trail work, participants take part in resume workshops, job skills training, and mentoring experiences. After three years in the BYCC, Dawson McKenney (top two photos at right) successfully landed his dream job in Baxter State Park. Dawson joined the Baxter State Park staff as a campground ranger in 2020 and is now working as the Park's Trail Specialist. We could not be more delighted and wish him a long and successful conservation career.





I want pleasant foot trails built and attractive camp-sites laid out in the valleys, by the brooks and on the shores of the waters. Sites where simple forest lean-tos and small log cabins are available to those who love nature and are willing to walk and make an effort to get close to nature... I want it made available to persons of moderate means who with their boys and girls, with their packs of bedding and food, can tramp through the woods, cook a steak and make flapjacks by the lakes and brooks.⁷

– Percival Baxter



A PARTNER'S VIEW BY JENSEN BISSELL

At the turn of the century, I was a member of the Park's management team. I remember the day we learned that a Friends of Baxter State Park group was forming. It was not long after a controversial Baxter State Park decision regarding public use on the recently purchased West Branch Lands in the southwest corner of the Park. The decision involved hunting and vehicle access, issues that are always controversial in Maine. The Authority, by split votes, decided to allow hunting and prohibit vehicle access. Like most compromises, both sides were unhappy.

There was a sense that the Friends group was forming to act as a watchdog to help prevent any further unsatisfactory decisions. In the early days, I remember a definite tension between the Park and the Friends. In the years that followed, that tension faded as Friends of Baxter State Park consistently collaborated to coordinate and fund a wide variety of activities and projects that improved the Park and the visitor experience.

I became the Park Director in 2005, five years after the formation of Friends. I began my tenure working with Charlie Jacobi, and together we built a deep, durable, and trusting relationship between the Park and Friends. That relationship blossomed during the tenure of the indefatigable Barbara Bentley. The early years were marked by Friends support for the purchase of and planning for the Katahdin Lake parcel and the release of Howard Whitcomb's comprehensive work on the history of Percival Baxter's lifelong effort to build and gift the Park.

At the Park's request, Friends supported the maintenance of the Park trail system – the heart of the Park. Friends provided both people and funding to help put crews to work clearing and maintaining the 220 miles of trails. This included the first full inventory of the Park's trail system in 2011. After a landslide on the Abol Slide in 2013, Friends raised funds to help relocate the trail. This multi-year effort, along with many, many others, are examples of a continuing line of projects where both the Park and Friends worked together to preserve and protect the resources of Maine's greatest gift. Friends has now provided more than \$200,000 to support critical trail maintenance needs.



With financial support from Friends, these members of the Maine Conservation Corps are working to relocate the Abol Trail following a major landslide.

Baxter State Park staff and rangers admire one of nine new 3D terrain models produced and donated by Friends of Baxter State Park in 2017. These state-of-the-art terrain models are now in use throughout the Park.



A gift from Friends helped the Park purchase the rights to Stephen Clark's *Baxter State Park and Katahdin* hiking guide, update the content, and then publish the guide as a Park-owned publication. The Park and Friends also worked together on the five-year Plants of Baxter State Park project, which resulted in the publication of the first comprehensive field guide to the flora of the Park in 2016. Knowing the flora of the Park in detail enables staff to better protect it.

In 2017, Friends donated nine new 3D terrain models to Baxter State Park. This included seven Katahdin models, one model of the Traveler Range, and one model covering the entire Park. These are currently installed throughout the Park at Roaring Brook, Katahdin Stream, South Branch Pond, the Visitor Center, and elsewhere. Over the coming decades, these terrain models will help hundreds of thousands of Park visitors understand the terrain they will be traveling through and hopefully have safer and more enjoyable visits. This project had a budget of \$65,000 and was funded by several very generous donors.

Friends has also been working to build the next generation of advocates and stewards for Baxter State Park. The Park has been a proud partner on the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program since its inception in 2009. More recently, the Baxter Youth Conservation Corps has been providing direct trail support to the Park – more than 5,100 hours of it – while providing employment to local youth and helping them build lifelong connections to the spectacular wilderness in their own backyards.

After two decades of support, my conclusion is this: thousands of people love Baxter State Park, and Friends has mastered the ability to focus the power of this love into actions that will help ensure future generations can experience the joy of the Park and make the memories that will last a lifetime, just as we have.

Congratulations to Friends of Baxter State Park, and thank you.



A VOICE FOR WILDERNESS

BY ELLEN BAUM

For two decades, Friends has been a strong, swift, and vigilant advocate for the wilderness values of Baxter State Park. This advocacy work is at the heart of what we do and is fueled by the knowledge and passion of our staff, board, and members.

In 2004, Friends wrote to the Baxter State Park Authority advocating for protection of the East Branch lands, especially those around Katahdin Lake. We said these lands were of paramount importance to the Park and that we supported efforts to conserve them. In 2011, we were the first conservation organization in Maine to support a feasibility study for a national park on lands owned by Elliotsville Plantation. We reaffirmed our support to the Maine congressional delegation in 2014 and supported the creation of a national monument two years later. Since the designation of Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, we have actively participated in the management planning process and been a steadfast advocate for the Park's wilderness values.

We supported the Nature Conservancy's Katahdin Forest Project, which buffers the Park border on the south and west. The project also protects a working forest that is the backbone of the Katahdin region. Friends has weighed in on several development proposals within the Park's viewshed and voiced serious concerns about changes to the Land Use Planning Commission's adjacency rule, citing detrimental impacts on scenic viewsheds and rural services and the near-certainty of sprawl.

Friends has taken a number of positions before the Baxter Park Authority, including supporting the removal of the Daicey Pond "Lookout" cabin, protecting moose at Sandy Stream and Stump Ponds, changes in the reservation system, and the Park's commitment to use "limits of acceptable change" as a formal planning process. We urged that a buffer be left as part of a planned harvest along the Tote Road in the Scientific Forest Management Area and called for limiting snowmobile use.

In 2015, Friends began playing a key role in addressing challenges related to the Appalachian Trail. Working with the Park, Friends convened a task force of stakeholders, including the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association, Maine Appalachian Trail Club, Baxter

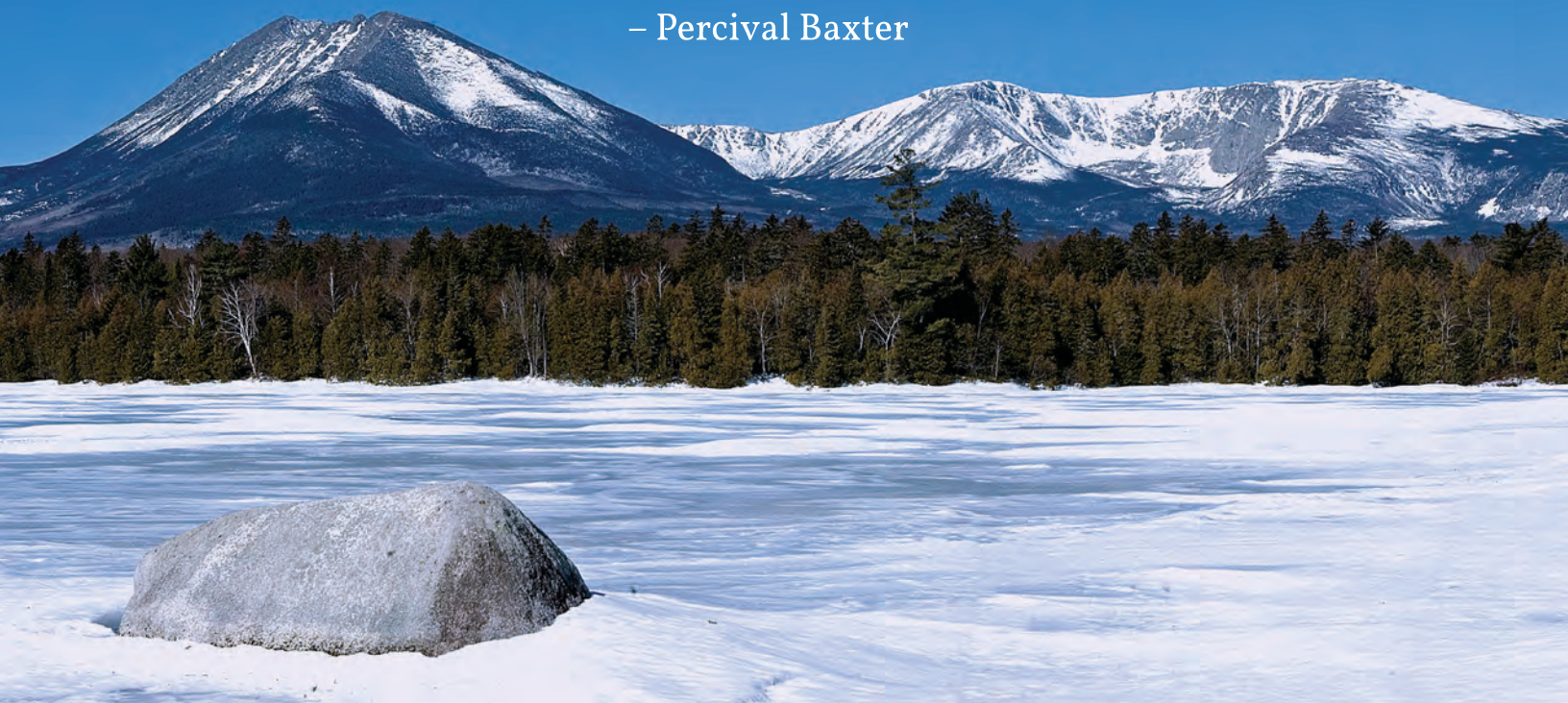


State Park, and local businesses to find constructive solutions. The result was a *Finish Well* campaign, a permit system for AT thru-hikers, and steady improvement in hiker behavior.

Although Baxter State Park is usually well insulated from politics, Friends is always ready to defend the Park before the legislature. In 2011 we opposed legislation to allow hunting around Katahdin Lake, with letters of opposition to the press, outreach to legislators, and in-person testimony. We used similar strategies in 2019 to defeat a bill that would have overruled the Deeds of Trust and allowed commercial floatplane access on Katahdin Lake. Our staff and Policy Committee track issues that could impact the Park, and we are always ready to respond when needed.

*I want to get some of 3R8 [T3R8] where Katahdin Lake is located.
If I can get a piece of it, more may follow. It would be nice for our Park.⁸*

– Percival Baxter



PROFILE IN GENEROSITY: H. FRANK TRAUTMANN, 1921 – 2014

BY BARBARA BENTLEY

With the creation of the Baxter Park Wilderness Fund Trust in 2007, H. Frank Trautmann left his entire estate to Baxter State Park, having undergone twenty years of legal wrangling to do so. Maine laws complicated the process, but Frank's dogged persistence paved the way for others to support Baxter State Park.



Frank Trautmann, at age 74, his nine-year-old grandson, Eric, and son Charlie with one of the many signs Frank made for the Park on the occasion of his last ascent of Katahdin and Eric's first.

When Frank retired at age 47, he sold the family house on Long Island and invested the money wisely. The family moved permanently to Islesboro, Maine, where Frank had vegetable gardens, maintained the property himself, and lived frugally. While generous with others, Frank spared himself all luxuries and recycled everything, long before that was the thing to do.

Frank took his first trip to Baxter State Park when his son Charlie was 15 years old. Each year thereafter, Frank and his son hiked a section of the AT, finally arriving at Pinkham Notch in 1975. When the father-son expeditions stopped, Frank was still in his fifties and began volunteering in the Park. He'd load up his station wagon and trailer with supplies and head north to roof lean-tos, clear trails, build structures – sometimes with lumber he had cut and milled on his Islesboro property.

Frank established lifelong friendships with fellow volunteers and Park staff, including a very close one with Park Director Buzz Caverly. In 2006, the \$14 million Katahdin Lake Campaign was winding down with a significant funding gap and a dim prospect of success. Buzz paid a personal visit to Frank and explained the situation. On a handshake, Frank sold his home on Islesboro in a complex transaction that would ultimately complete the Katahdin Lake purchase and fund an endowment to support Baxter State Park. He never visited the Park again, but his devotion to it never waned. Until his death, Frank followed all Friends activities closely, reading the minutes of Board Meetings and every word of our newsletter, *Forever Wild*.

Frank used to say, "Most people like to make money to buy things. I like to make money so I can give it away." And give it away he did – very generously to Friends of Baxter State Park. Frank funded the printing of many publications, provided necessary matching funds for federal grants, and helped Friends purchase the rights to Stephen Clark's *Baxter State Park and Katahdin* guide to give to the Park. Frank also gave generous gift memberships and substantial donations of memorial funds.

When Frank died in 2014 at age 93, Park Director Jensen Bissell paid tribute to him, citing not just his contributions to the Park but praising his approach to work and life as a model for us all. Former Park Director Buzz Caverly said that other than Governor Baxter, Frank Trautmann had contributed more to the Park than any other individual. Much of Friends' work on behalf of the Park was due to Frank's encouragement, support, and inspiration. Frank often asked, "Isn't there something I could do to be helpful?" Just imagine a world in which other people asked that question more often. Thank you, Frank, for everything.

When you inspect this map it will be difficult for you to visualize how this has been accomplished, how my numerous purchases have been brought together into one solid area. I myself can hardly realize it. A map showing the different acquisitions both small and large over the years would remind you of your grandmother's patchwork quilt, which finally in some mysterious way came out of the confusion into one solid piece.⁹

– Percival Baxter



In 2009, Friends of Baxter State Park President Barbara Bentley, a fabric artist, created quilts as gifts for departing board members. Her work illustrates the many land purchases that made up the Park, and the famous quote in which Governor Baxter likened the map to your grandmother's patchwork quilt.

HONORING OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS



Duffy Akerley
Jean Amaral
Jim Amaral &
Dolores Carbonneau
George Ames
Richard B. Anderson
Jennifer Atkinson
Phyllis Austin
Alan Azzara
Ib Barfod
Bill & Barbara Bentley
Richard Berry
Roland & Janice Bilodeau
Harris Bixler
Susan Bodyke & John Minott
Peter & Raquel Boehmer
James Boutin & Susan Kimball
Russell Brace
Edward Brune
Carol P. Bryan
Hal Busch
Hob Calhoun
Mary Callanan
Steven Cartwright
Tim & Susan Caverly
Edward and Marilyn Chase
Jerry Cinnamon
Stephanie M. Clement
Howard Cotton
Kenneth Coulter
Harry Cunningham &
Beth Cuddy
Ronald & Shirley Davis
Evelyn Dearborn

Meg Dellenbaugh
Cheryl Denz
David & Holly Dominie
Daisy Dore & Jeff Janell
Dick Doucette
Del Downes
Edward & Deborah Dwyer
Clint Baxter Dyer
Margaret Dyer
C. Rudy Engholm
Bob & Joan Erickson
Donn Fendler
Charles FitzGerald &
Kathy Cerick
David & Dorrie Getchell
David Getchell, Jr.
Diane Getty & Kelly Kietzke
Bruce & Nancy Grant
Paul & Margot Haertel
Margaret Hanscom
Stuart Hardy & Wanda Carlisle
Dennis Hamish &
Cheryl A. Harrington
Forest & Susan Hart
Wayne Hartz
Eric & Elaine Hendrickson
Earl Hodgkins
William & Cookie Homer
Betty Howard
Deborah Howard &
Thomas Girard
Tom & Dee Dee Howard
Don Hudson & Phine Ewing
James & Susan Hynson
Linda Ives & Latona Torrey
Dave Jackson
Charlie Jacobi
Sally Jacobs
Catherine Johnson &
Jon Luoma

Norma & Austin Jones
Jonathan P. Kahn
Mary Keefe & Martin Womer
Lester Kenway
Anne Kilham
Robert Kimber
Gabrielle Kissinger &
Greg Kehm
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Laurence Leavitt
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Peter Millard & Emily Wesson
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Harvey L. Rohde, Jr.
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G. Steven Rowe
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Maryellen Silliker
Frank Sleeper
Buffi Smith
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Cynthia & Brian Swan
Stan Tag
Jane & Jonathan Thomas
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Judith Wentzell &
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PUBLICATIONS



GOVERNOR BAXTER'S MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF BAXTER STATE PARK, 1931 - 2006

By Howard R. Whitcomb. Published by Friends of Baxter State Park, 2008.

Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession is an essential reference work for anyone interested in Baxter State Park. This volume features an excellent historical essay on the creation of the Park, the complete Deeds of Trust, documentation on land acquisitions after Baxter's death, maps, and valuable annotations throughout.

PERCIVAL P. BAXTER'S VISION FOR BAXTER STATE PARK

Compiled by Howard R. Whitcomb. Published by Friends of Baxter State Park, 2005. Reprinted in 2008.

Baxter State Park is unique in the annals of land conservation in the United States. This four-volume set is the definitive reference on the creation of Baxter State Park, from vision to completion. This work, compiled by Howard R. Whitcomb after years of exhaustive research, contains 1,500 pages of primary sources.

THE PLANTS OF BAXTER STATE PARK

By Glen H. Mittelhauser, Jensen Bissell, Don Cameron, Alison C. Dibble, Arthur Haines, Jean Hoekwater, Marilee Lovit, and Aaron Megquier. Published by University of Maine Press, 2016.

Baxter State Park is one of the most ecologically diverse and beautiful protected sites in the northeastern United States. *The Plants of Baxter State Park* presents scientific descriptions of all 857 plant species known to occur in the Park, as well as helpful keys, illustrated plant-family sections, and over 2,000 photographs.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: TIPS FOR PREPARING TO VISIT MAINE'S WILDERNESS

This popular brochure introduces people to Percival Baxter's gift and communicates the nature-first, people-second management philosophy of the Park. Filled with useful information, *Know Before You Go* delivers the essential message that people are responsible for their own safety in the wilderness.

BAXTER STATE PARK CALENDAR

Friends publishes the popular annual Baxter State Park calendar in partnership with Baxter State Park and Maine Scene, a family-owned business in Union, Maine. The calendar features breathtaking photos taken by Friends members and Park staff.

FOREVER WILD

Forever Wild is our newsletter for members, a quarterly publication with a print circulation of 1,400 and an electronic circulation of 800. Each issue contains updates on Baxter State Park, upcoming events and activities, photography, letters to the editor, trip reports, and more. We also maintain an online archive dating back to the first issue in 2002.

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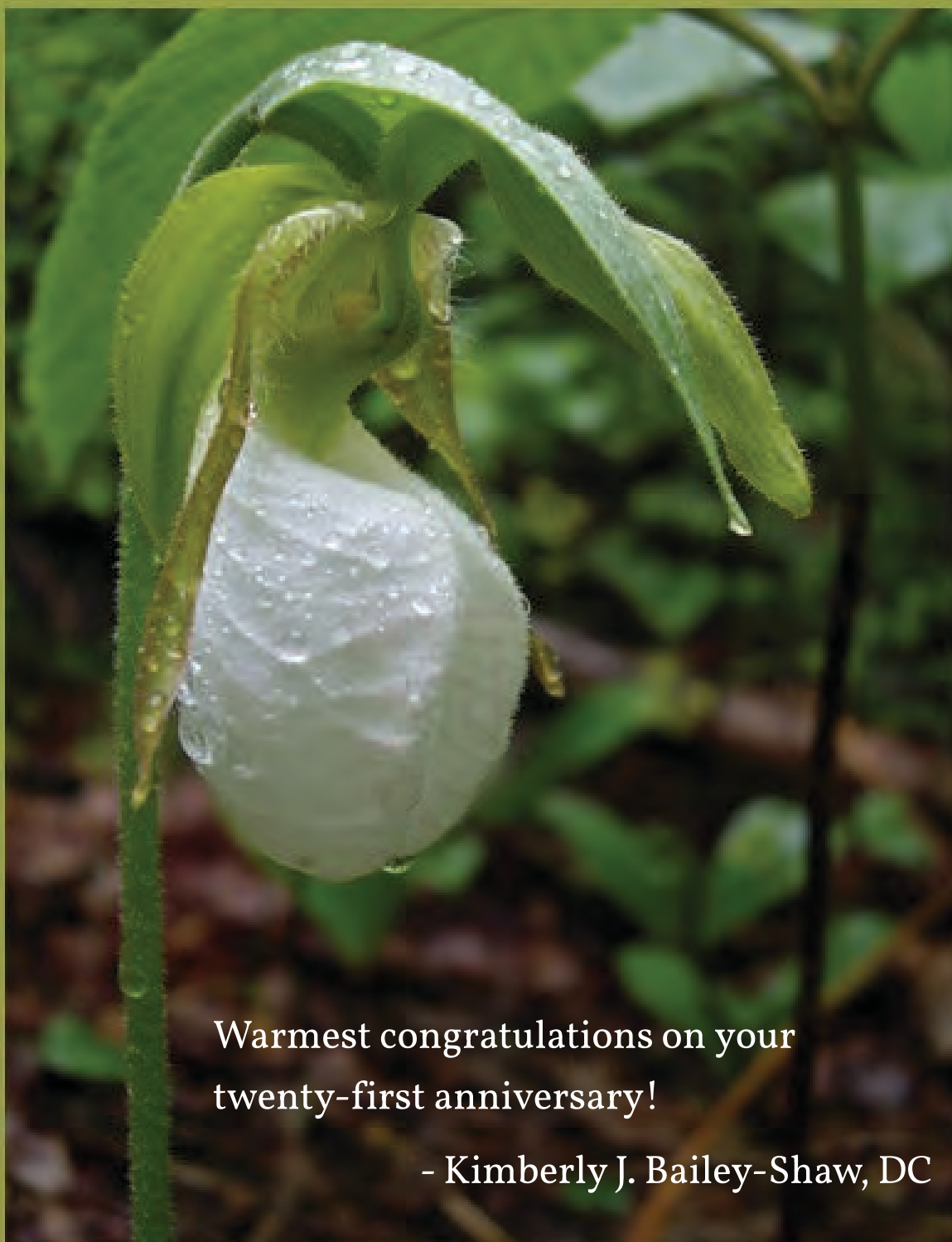


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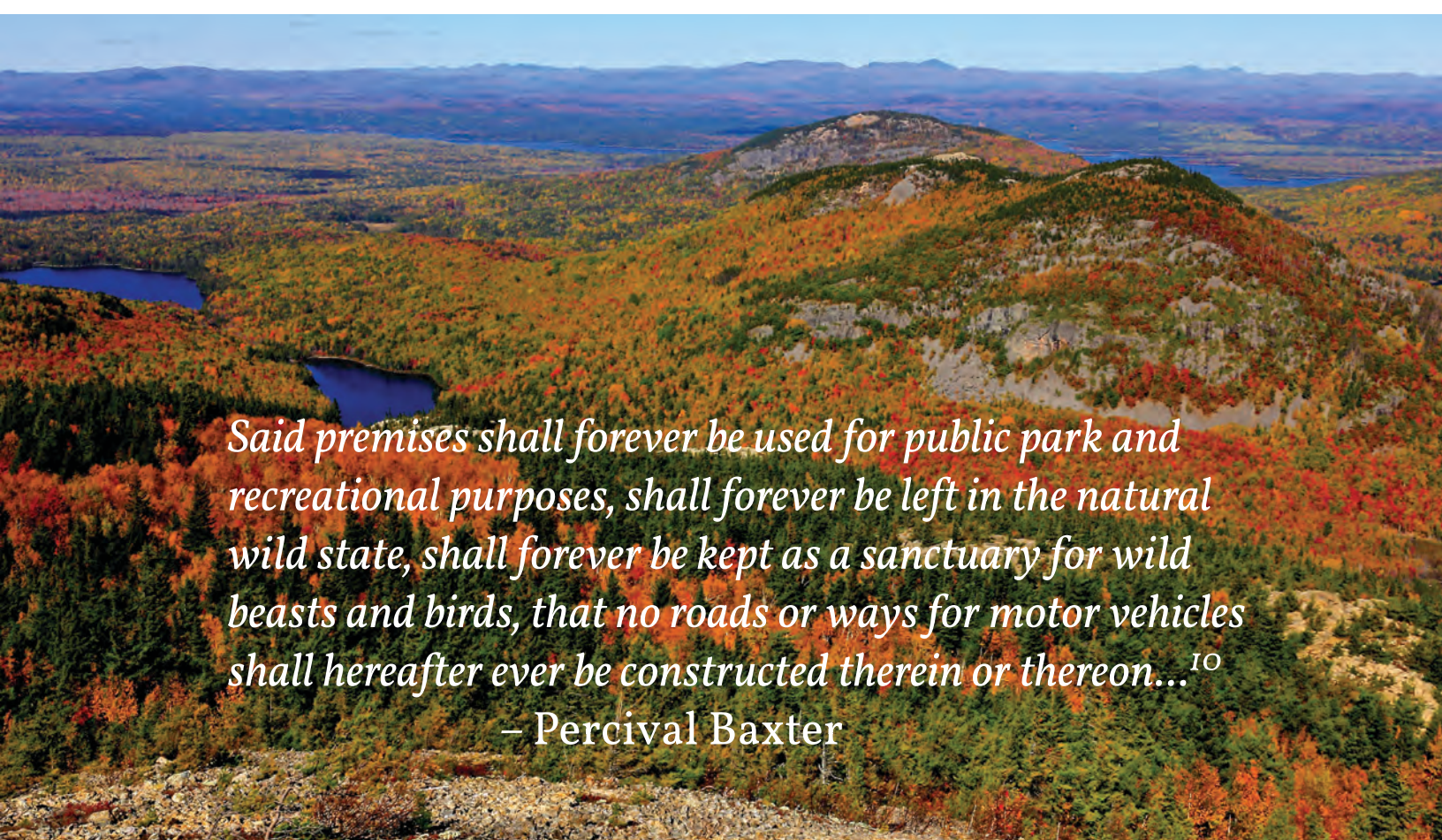
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CITATIONS

1. William O. Douglas to Edmund Ware Smith, July 19, 1965
2. Arthur G. Staples, "Katahdin—The Highest Mountain in the Wildest Part of New England," *Lewiston Journal*, October 2, 1920, Magazine Section, p. 5.
3. Public Law 88-577, 88th Congress, S.4., September 3, 1964
4. Percival Baxter, P & S Laws of 1955, Chap. 2
5. Henry David Thoreau, *The Maine Woods*, edited by Joseph J. Moldenhauer (Princeton University Press, 2004) p. 283.
6. Percival P. Baxter, "Mount Katahdin State Park," An Address at the Annual Meeting of the Maine Sportsmen's Fish and Game Association, Hall of Representatives, State Capitol, Augusta, Maine, January 27, 1921, p. 13.
7. Formal Communication dated January 2, 1945, to the Honorable Horace A. Hildreth, Governor, and the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the 92nd Legislature
8. Letter to Warden Supervisor Caleb W. Scribner of March 2, 1946
9. Formal Communication dated March 17, 1955 to the Honorable Edmund S. Muskie, Governor, and the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the 97th Legislature
10. Percival Baxter, P & S Laws of 1931, Chap. 23



Said premises shall forever be used for public park and recreational purposes, shall forever be left in the natural wild state, shall forever be kept as a sanctuary for wild beasts and birds, that no roads or ways for motor vehicles shall hereafter ever be constructed therein or thereon...¹⁰

– Percival Baxter



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