Join Maine Trail crew on 2012 projects

By Lester Kenway

Maine Trail Crew Projects are a joint venture between the Maine AT Club, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Student Conservation Association. Work trips are scheduled Saturday - Wednesday. MATC members are welcome to join us for a day or longer!

Horns Pond Trail
• Erosion Control, June 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21
The Horns Pond Trail climbs the southern slope of Bigelow Mountain on its way to the Horn’s Pond campsite. It is a very heavily used trail with lots of work that needs to be done. Bigelow Mountain is often called “Maine’s Second Mountain” with numerous peaks and trails second only to Katahdin. The crew will use hand tools and Griphoist equipment to move rocks into place for waterbars and stone steps.

Difficulty: More difficult

Chairback Mountain
• Erosion Control, June 16, 23, 30
Chairback Mountain’s name comes from the profile viewed from Katahdin Iron Works. A series of slopes and cliffs make it look like a giant chair. The crew will be building rock steps and rebuilding old waterbars. Hand tools and Griphoist gear will be used to bring rocks to the trail. This project is located near the famous Gulf Hagas. The crew will car camp in the area and hike a mile or so up the mountain each day.

Difficulty: Moderate

Gulf Hagas
• Erosion Control, July 7, July 14, July 21
Often called the “Grand Canyon of the East”. Gulf Hagas features a 3 mile canyon with numerous pools and waterfalls. Shovels, pry bars, mattocks, and Griphoist equipment will be used to build stone steps along the approach to the gorge.

Difficulty: Moderate

Rainbow Lake
• Step Stones and Drainage Ditches, July 28, August 4 and 11
Rainbow Lake is the last large lake that hikers pass on their way to Katahdin. Its deep clear water and boulder strewn shores make for a beautiful wilderness scene. Extensive wet areas call for step stones and drainage ditches. Pry bars, shovels and mattocks will be used to build improvements along the trail.

The crew will backpack 3-1/2 miles to a lake side campsite near Rainbow Dam.

Difficulty: More Difficult.

Continued on page 2

Left: Maine Trail Crew moving a boulder. More photos on page 2
Nahmakanta Stream • Step Stones July 28, August 4 and 11

The AT follows Nahmakanta Stream on its way between Nahmakanta and Pemadumcook Lakes. There is much logging history to be seen here. Several wet and muddy areas are encountered along the way. Hand tools such as mattocks, shovels, and pry bars will be used to put in step stones. There is a very nice campsite next to the stream. The crew will backpack 3 miles to a campsite near the work areas.

Difficulty: Moderate

NOTE:

Maine Trail Crew projects involve construction conditions. MTC will provide safety gear such as hard hats and eye protection. You must bring sturdy boots, long pants and gloves.

Please be sure to contact the Maine Trail Crew before planning to join the crew so you know where to meet them. Many project approaches involve using bushwhacks to save time reaching the site instead of hiking in along the AT.

The Maine Trail Crew, Maine Appalachian Trail Club, PO Box 30, Garland ME 04939, 207-518-1779, 207-924-0133 (after May 12), or matc@gwi.net.

Annual meeting is April 14 at UM Farmington

Mark your calendars now. The annual MATC meeting will be held April 14, 2012 at Lincoln Auditorium at the University of Maine Farmington.

Meet the volunteer officers that keep our organization vibrant and meet many of the maintainers that keep the Appalachian Trail in Maine the envy of the entire 2,189 mile footpath. We gather at 8 a.m. for coffee, socializing, and breakfast snacks. President Lester Kenway will welcome members and the public at 9 am.

The tentative agenda includes:
- Approval of the 2010 Annual Meeting minutes by Secretary Janice Clain
- Treasurer's Report - Elsa Sanborn
- Adoption of Budget for FY 2012-2013 - Tom Lewis, Finance Committee
- Corresponding Secretary Report - Dick Doucette

10:00 AM - Reports
- President's Report on the past year - Lester Kenway
- Care Committee Report - TBA
- Campsite Committee Report - Laura Flight
- Trail Crew Center Project - Lester Kenway
- 2012 Trail Crew Season Preview

Recognition and Awards
11:30 AM - Salute to Trail Volunteers
12:00 PM - Lunch (in the UMF cafeteria or on your own)

1:00 PM
- Current Wind Power issues update - Tom Lewis
- Corridor Monitoring - David Field
- Open Forum on current issues before the Club

2:30 PM
- Concurrent Meetings with Trail Overseers and Maintainers
- New member and guest welcome session - Lester Kenway

4:00 PM - End of Day

There is a concerted effort by many recreation and conservation organizations to encourage people to get outdoors. The state's "Take It Outside" program and more recently, the Great American Outdoors Initiative are two broad examples of this effort. At a recent meeting, hosted by the Nature Conservancy, this ad hoc effort to get more people outside has been formalized into what is now named the Maine Outdoor Coalition.

The Maine Appalachian Trail Club helps to 'connect people to the outdoors' by maintaining a facility for outdoor activity. By our very work, we get people outdoors (429 volunteers logging almost 26,000 hours in 2011). MATC is not actively working to get others outdoors, although many in the club would support this as a worthy objective.

However, our trail partners, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the National Park Service do program and devote resources to getting people outdoors. MATC or its members support these programs to varying degrees: Trails to Every Classroom, Trail Communities, National Trails Day & National Family Hiking Day.

MATC is now a member of the Maine Outdoor Coalition. Stay tuned for a new Maine Outdoor Coalition website and activities, events and initiatives that will involve the Appalachian Trail in Maine.
The 2 mile section of the Appalachian Trail from the junction with the Abraham side trail to the summit of Spaulding Mountain is available. This section is currently accessed from the Barnjum road by hiking the AT over Lone mountain a distance of 3 miles and 1000’ of elevation gain. The retiring maintainer recently gained access via ATV and a 15 minute walk to the junction with the Abraham side trail. This section features 900’ of elevation gain, the Spaulding shelter and the summit of Spaulding mountain. This section needs some clipping and drainage work and I will coordinate volunteers to help with the major projects.

The 1.7 mile Abraham side trail is also available. This section features 800’ of elevation gain and great views from the ridge of Abraham. This section is currently accessed from the Barnjum road by hiking the AT over Lone mountain a distance of 3 miles and 1000’ of elevation gain. The retiring maintainer recently gained access via ATV and a 15 minute walk to the junction with the Abraham side trail. This section is in reasonably good shape but needs annual maintenance of blowdown removal, clipping and drainage clearing.

The 2.4 mile section from the summit of South Horn to Bigelow Col is available. This section was maintained for the past 20 years by Chris Dorion who also manages the Maine Outdoor Club section on Moxie Bald Mt. This section features both the summit of South Horn and the West Peak of Bigelow in addition to the 2.1 mile forested ridge walk between the peaks. This section is accessed by either the Firewardens or Horns Pond trails and can be done in a 12 mile loop using both trails that includes a total of 3,200’ of elevation gain. This section is in great shape but will need annual blowdown removal, brush cutting and waterbar cleaning in the Spring and Fall. I will coordinate volunteers to help with any other major projects.

Applicants should be willing to commit to making at least 3 trips per season, Spring, Summer and Fall to clear waterbars and blowdowns, do annual brush clipping as needed and blazing every few years. Just three tools are needed on most maintenance trips, a small handsaw, hand clippers and a short hand hoe.

Anyone interested in these assignments may apply ASAP and I will contact all applicants later this Winter.

Bigelow District Overseer
Dick Fecteau
284 Ramsdell Rd.
Farmington, Me. 04938
207-778-0870
rfecteau@midmaine.com
MATC’s Sawyer Training program continues to enjoy success. This past year, 12 new sawyers were trained and 16 sawyers were re-certified.

Since the beginning of the program in 2004, we have trained 144 individuals (several returning multiple times for re-certification) and, as of this writing, we have 68 currently certified. Both the spring and fall sessions continue to be fully subscribed. Many thanks to those individuals who support this valuable program.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy’s Sawyer Certification Program teaches Trail volunteers how to safely operate a chain saw to remove downed trees and cut materials needed for Trail projects. We offer free training courses, free personal protective equipment (PPE), and reimbursement of first-aid/CPR certification costs for MATC member trail maintainers. For others, the fee is $130 without free PPE and FA/CPR reimbursement.

The Maine Appalachian Trail Club has tentatively set the 2012 Chainsaw Safety Workshop schedule as follows. Please keep an eye on our website (www.matc.org) for updates to this schedule.

- April 21-22 at the new MATC Base Camp property in Skowhegan
- October 6-7 at Larry Clark’s tree farm in Windham

The workshops will be for both new certification and re-certification. The re-certification course will be one day only, the Saturday of the noted weekend. The one-day re-certification class is for Sawyers with a current Level B certification.

If your current certification will expire in the next twelve months, or has recently expired, we urge you to signup for a workshop and renew your credentials.

If you have not taken advantage of this valuable training and wish to use a chainsaw on the Trail, then join us for a fun and worthwhile two days.

Space is limited. Please contact Craig Dickstein at craig.donna@myfairpoint.net, (207) 672-4983, or by mail at PO Box 128, Caratunk, Maine 04925.

Left: Master sawyer, Gordon Clark, doing spring cleanup

Right: Laura Flight cutting a tree for a bridge over a stream on the Maine Appalachian Trail.
Fall hike creates relationships for MATC

By Dave Field

For the past few years, the MATC has organized an annual “Partnership Hike,” dedicated to renewing and strengthening the relationships among the organizations who share in the Appalachian Trail project in Maine with our Club. President Lester Kenway scheduled this year’s hike to inspect recent repairs to the Pleasant Pond Lean-to, see recent erosion control work on Pleasant Pond Mt. by the Maine Conservation Corps, discuss National Park Service National Environmental Policy Act compliance review of a relocation designed to remove the Trail from some very steep ledges on the climb up the western side of Pleasant Pond Mt., and consider the impacts of existing and proposed wind farm developments as viewed from the mountain.

Lester, Overseer of Lands Dave Field, ATC Conservation Resources Manager Matt Stevens, Appalachian Trail Park Office Chief Ranger Todd Remaley, Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands Management Plan Coordinator Rex Turner, MATC Directors Bruce Grant and Don stack, and MATC Club Coordinator Holly Sheehan met at the U.S. 201 parking lot early on 7 October. After a brief discussion with Maine Warden Service personnel from Bingham and Greenville, the group drove to the trailhead near Pleasant Pond Mt. and, after a discussion of the issues and accomplishments of interest to all.

As usual on these hikes, in addition to the planned agenda the participants talked about many matters of mutual interest in face-to-face discussions that promote common understanding, clear up misunderstandings, and contribute to the ability of all of us to better serve the Appalachian Trail Community in the future.

Volunteer spotlight: Janice Clain

This MAINEtuner issue's volunteer spotlight is on Janice Clain, the Maine Appalachian Trail Club's recording secretary. Below is her story.

“Though I grew up in Piscataquis County, less than 25 miles from Gulf Hagas, I came rather late to hiking. There was one failed attempt to scale Borestone Mountain with some cousins when I was about 12 years old; we got to the ponds about half way up, but quickly turned around when we heard what seemed like a dangerous wild animal ready to pounce on us.

“About 20 years ago, with one of those same cousins, I made my first hiking trip on the Gulf Hagas circuit. To say we were unprepared for the strenuous expedition is an understatement. However, it got me hooked on hiking. Soon after, I asked some of my students if they wanted to see the prettiest place in Maine, and they joined me for what would become an annual fall hiking trip and the beginnings of a hiking club at my school.

“I remember calling a group of kids to my classroom and asking what they thought about my idea. One young man said that he had always wanted to hike, but no one in his family had the interest or the physical ability to join him. That's all it took.

“With support from the school administration, we were off. Over the next several years, we hiked most of the trails within a 100 mile radius of Hermon High School, and ended each school year with a stay in Baxter Park and trek up Katahdin.

“After several years of hosting the hiking club, I felt it was time to give something back to the hiking community. I contacted Baxter State Park and got myself a slot as a volunteer on the trail crew in the last season Lester Kenway was in charge of the trail system there. A few years later, with recommendations written by a couple of my students, I was able to get on the Maine Appalachian Trail Club Trail Crew. I soon found I had an invitation to help with the crew base camp, which led to an invitation to be part of the Trail Crew Committee.

“In 2004, I answered a request for a volunteer to monitor the Register Box at Gulf Hagas. Before I had even seen that register box, I got a call from Don Stack with an offer I couldn't refuse: the CARE Committee was looking for someone to supervise the Ridge Runner position at Gulf Hagas. There wouldn't be much work involved, just a site visit once a month and a phone call each week. Little did I know!

“Next came an answer to Dave Field's plea to club members to take on corridor monitoring duties. Luckily, the section at Gulf Hagas running from the Pleasant River to the Cut-Off Trail, where ‘my’ register box is located, was open.

“In 2007, club President, Milt Wright, invited me to attend the January meeting of the Executive Committee, which he soon followed with an invitation to serve as a Director. When the position of club Recording Secretary became vacant, Milt twisted my arm. Like Don Stack before him, he said it wouldn't be much work, just taking notes and compiling a report at six meetings a year. About the same time, Julian Wiggins, with whom I had worked on the Trail Crew, said he was looking for someone to help Sid Quarrrier maintain the section of Trail from Crawford Pond to the East Branch of the Pleasant River. As Julian had helped out with the Gulf Hagas Ridge Runner site, I couldn't very well say no. I still have that beautiful 4.6 mile section.

“So my involvement with MATC has continued to grow since I joined the club in about 1999, mostly because I have difficulty with the word ‘no.’

“I'm a little defensive on the subject of long-distance hiking. So many other members of the MATC Executive Committee have hiked the length of the AT. I don't have the endurance, capacity or time to take on such an ambitious undertaking. I was able in the summer of 2003 to fulfill a long held hiking goal. With a former student who now teaches Spanish, I was able to combine my strong interests in the Spanish language, history, art and hiking. We walked the medieval pilgrimage route from the Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostela, a distance of about 450 miles. We followed in the footsteps of countless pilgrims over the last thousand years, including St. Francis of Assisi, Pope John Paul and the Brazilian author Paulo Coelho.

“Unlike the AT, the path winds through towns established to meet the needs of walkers from all the European continent over the last thousand years. It passes over bridges and stone-paved walkways built by the Romans. It passes by sites where Charlemagne's troops fought against the Saracens (Muslim Moors who occupied parts of Spain for nearly eight hundred years). While the walk wasn't as taxing as the trek between Georgia and Maine, it gave me a perspective of how AT hikers feel when they see that sign on Baxter Peak that marks the end of their long journey.

— Elsa Sanborn, Treasurer

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER—

I expect that you have all received a letter from our President Lester Kenway asking you to join us in contributing to our Club’s annual appeal. The money we raise from this effort will help put Caretakers and Ridgerunners on the Trail next summer. These enthusiastic individuals manage our heavily used campsites and teach hikers how to Leave-No-Trace in the woods.

We have been receiving responses since Thanksgiving; we are almost a third of the way to our goal of $25,000.

Remember, your donation is tax deductible. Help us reach our target. Mail your contribution or go to our web page at www.matc.org and click on the Donate Now button. — Elsa Sanborn, Treasurer
Dick Fecteau’s Bigelow district report

I received trip reports this past season from 29 maintainers who turned in 2342 volunteer hours. A total of 89 individuals worked on 92 trips in the district this past year.

Highlights include:
Under the expert direction of retiring site facilitators Bill and Jan Eddy we were fortunate to have had Piazza Rock caretaker Adrienne Tauses on site this past season. Adrienne was an A.T. thru-hiker in 2009, as well as having worked as a wilderness therapist on the west coast for several years.

It was discovered on the Piazza Rock caretaker pack in day that the clear acrylic panels that had been replaced two years ago had been damaged by a recent hail storm.

During her first week on site, Adrienne helped carry in and install new clear panels on the shelter roof. Adrienne was very effective as a caretaker, site maintainer and ridge runner in the area, plus being a friendly and helpful host to many hikers.

A Maine Conservation Crew spent six weeks under the direction of Tim St. Thomas doing extensive rock work at numerous points on the trail between Piazza Rock and Ethel Pond.

The Maine Trail Crew spent three weeks under the direction of Chris Binder doing extensive rock work at numerous points on the trail between Eddy Pond and treeline on Saddleback.

The Camp Teki girls hauled enough cedar lumber into the Reddington Stream campsite to build two new tent platforms during the last week of July. Other helpers included Dave Field, Nancy Fisher, Ben Godsoe and Adrienne Tauses.

In a partnership with the Bureau of Parks and Lands under the direction of Kim Lynch and MATC, the Camp Teki boys hauled enough lumber into the new Abraham campsite to build a moldering privy. Additionally they created a fire pit and five tent pads at the site during the last week of June.

Kim also managed to have a private contractor finish rock work on the lower section of the trail and complete extensive rock work on the upper section of the trail after Hurricane Irene washed out the Rapid Stream road and the twin bridges last August. The road is passable again but the bridges have not been replaced. It is 0.6 mi. to the trailhead from this area.

On Sept. 7, 2010 the MATC exec committee approved accepting the old Firewarden's trail from the Rapid Stream Valley to the summit of Mt. Abraham as an official blue blazed side trail to the AT. The trail has been assigned by MATC to the Maine Chapter of AMC, who currently partners with the Bates Outing Club on this trail.

The District was not affected too badly by Hurricane Irene, except for the section between the Abraham side trail and Spaulding shelter where two dozen mature fir blowdowns blocked the trail for a couple weeks until they were removed by maintainer Ed Schaff.

Sugarloaf reported over 8" of rain from Irene, which removed the plank across the Carrabassett in addition to washing out two bridges on Rt. 27 that spanned the river.

The Stratton Brook bridge was replaced last May as mentioned in the Summer MAINEtainer: The crew consisted of myself, Steve Swatling, Rob Reed, Jonathan Lemberg and Bob Weingarten. To my great relief the bridge survived the high waters of Hurricane Irene.

A crew from Unity College hauled cedar bog bridging planks into the trail section between Stratton Brook and Cranberry Stream campsite last August and a crew from the Maine Chapter of AMC installed the planks last October.

Jonathan Lemberg was the Horns Pond caretaker extraordinaire this past season. Jonathan was the caretaker on Springer Mountain last Winter, greeting many of the thru hikers who passed through Maine this season. Jonathan was very efficient as a caretaker, site maintainer and ridge runner in the area, plus being a friendly and helpful host to many hikers.

Have a great Winter,
Richard Fecteau

Below: Late fall, Bigelow.
Whitecap district report by Ron Dobra

Having been elected to the position of Whitecap Overseer this past April, I’ll pick up the annual report narrative with my first obligations: filling the maintainer vacancies that had (or were going to) happen. Luckily, it wasn’t hard to find willing and enthusiastic volunteers: Mary Ellen BaRoss for the Gulf Hagas Rim Trail; Steve Condon on the Pleasant River tote road; Lloyd Dickson for Leeman Brook lean-to; and Dick Welsh for the stretch in from Route 15 to Leeman Brook. In addition, I secured the continuance of Bruce Grant as assistant overseer. The district cadre of 34 veteran maintainers were joined by 55 other individuals, largely thanks to group efforts from the folks at LL Bean and the Maine chapter of the AMC. These efforts amassed a total of 1,785 hours combined work and travel, with only one section not reported on and many logging four or more work trips.

Major projects in Whitecap this year included a two week stint by the Maine Trail Crew on the west peak of Whitecap Mt., finishing a multi-year project to harden trail with steps and rock work; rebuilding the foundation and repositioning the privy at Long Pond Stream lean-to; cutting, milling, and laying a single track of stringers to replace the 200 feet of rotted bridging in Fourth Mt.. Bog; and replacing the front foundation logs at Leeman Brook lean-to. The ridge runner based in our district, Krisdin Diehl, was very proactive in moderating the effects of heavy foot traffic by encouraging Leave No Trace practices to the hundreds of hikers she met, as well as reporting any trail conditions of concern she encountered while hiking. An additional pleasant experience for me was once again co-leading the annual Greenville Elementary fourth grade hike AT hike from Route 15 to Leeman Brook in June.

Future plans and expectations include filling an ongoing maintainer vacancy from Fourth Mt.. Bog to Barren Mt.. fire tower; hosting the Maine Trail Crew for a round of trail hardening up Chairback Mt.; and contemplating new privy construction at Carl Newhall lean-to.

Please feel free to join us in these major work trips as they are posted on the web site, and grateful thanks to all the folks who fulfill their commitments as AT maintainers in the Whitecap District.

Join us on Feb. 25 for annual maintainer gathering, MATC social

Saturday, February 25, 2012
Skowhegan Community Center
39 Poulin Drive, Skowhegan Maine 04976

The Skowhegan Community Center is where we held the MATC 75th anniversary in June of 2010. It is located on Route 2, 0.8 miles west of the Skowhegan island bridges and 4.3 miles east of the Cumberland Farms store in Norridgewock.

To all Maintainers: Come join us for a day dedicated to MATC trail maintainers. Maintainers are the core of the MATC. Meet your fellow trail workers and Overseers. We will review best trail maintenance practices and updates of trail issues.

Maintainer’s Gathering - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Lunch will be provided
10:00 AM: Coffee and Donuts
Appalachian Trail Standards and Best Practices
• Trail Standards
• Signs
• Waterbars
• Bog Bridges
• Lean-to Maintenance
• Privy Maintenance
• Trail Tools - selection and maintenance.
12:00: Lunch - donations welcome
• Questions and Answers
• ATC - NPS 5 year planning
2:30 PM: Wrap up

Winter Social - 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Join us for a snowshoe tour of the future Trail Crew Center or relax with your friends at the Community Center. Ski touring trails are available at Lake George Park, 6 miles north of Skowhegan.
5:00  PM: Pot luck Supper
6:00  PM: Wicked Good Entertainment - TBA

Right: Bill and Jan Eddy with their Appalachian Trail cake at Bill's "retirement" party. Bill gave up his post as Piazza Rock Site Facilitator last October after many years of dedicated and much appreciated service. Bill remains a member of the CARE Committee. Steve Masse has taken up the reins at Piazza Rock.
Leeman Brook shelter gets fixed

By Laura Flight

The Leeman Brook lean-to near Monson was the recipient of two work trips this year; one in July and one in October. The front two logs of the lean-to including the deacon’s seat had significant end-rot such that the perpendicular logs on top were at risk of a significant downward shift that would not prove healthy for the rest of the structure if left unattended.

MATC President Lester Kenway was the skilled crew leader for both work trips. We were accompanied by seven volunteers in July and eight in October. The air temperature for both work trips was well above established norms, with the July trip in the 90s, with the requisite humidity, and the October trip in the 70s.

In July trip we felled the trees for the replacements for the rotting pair in the lean-to front. Two spruce trees were felled under the guidance of Lester’s saw. These nearly 100-year old trees were limbed by Craig and then bucked to length. The bucking proved to be a show-stopper for a short time, as first Craig’s saw became bound, then Lester’s saw followed suit in its rescue attempt of Craig’s saw. A wedge, a lever, and the muscle power of volunteers finally freed the stubborn hold.

Flattening two sides of each log was accomplished with a chainsaw mill by Lester at the saw trigger and several volunteers who took a turn at pulling the guide rope. The logs were then stripped of their bark by the rest of the crew and propped up to dry until October, with special instructions to hikers to please not disturb, chop, burn, or whittle them in any way. Special thanks to Lester Kenway, Elsa Sanborn, Craig Dickstein, Donna Dickstein, Richard Welsch, Doug Dolan, and Ron Dobra for volunteering on this sultry day!

The October trip found the logs in perfect condition. There drier and lighter state was not disappointing as the crew of eight under Lester’s command hoisted and carried the logs from their drying grounds about 100 feet to the lean-to. Lester’s chainsaw removed the front two rotted logs in the lean-to, carefully avoiding metal spikes along the way. Doug’s battery operated saws-all was the victor over those objects, and was much appreciated over a hack saw.

The lean-to was jacked up on both sides of the front end in order to install the new logs. A search party was called to return with large, flat, stackable rocks. Most proved to be downhill of the lean-to, but an adequate supply was recovered and put to good use. With the lean-to satisfactorily perched, the bottom log was set into its berth. Before the second log was slid into place, additional vertical space was needed for it to join its partner. So more rock scrambling and lean-to jacking was initiated.

With that task accomplished, the second log was slid into place—almost. It didn’t want to fully make its way to the left side of the lean-to despite efforts to push it in this direction. So full-force blows to the butt end of the log with a sledge hammer were the next course of action. We had batted through the line up of volunteers twice before the log was in its final resting place.

With the logs in place, the spiking began. A battery-operated drill and its spare battery were both lacking sufficient voltage to perform intended tasks. The bit-brace rose to the challenge, but also quickly succumbed as for some reason it would go in, but not come out. It eventually released its hold, but not without some ingenuity and forcing. Spikes were pinned into the new logs and the structure became one again.

Special thanks to Lester Kenway, Doug Dolan, Richard Welsh, Ken Beach, Patty Harding, Mike Thul, Don Stack, and Ron Dobra for their help on this trip!

Above: The rotten logs at Leeman Brook that needed replacement, Don Stack Photo. Left: Dilemma -- Lester Kenway, left, Doug Dolan, and Craig Dickson ponder how to remove two stuck saws from one of the replacement logs. Richard Welsh Photo. Facing page. President Lester Kenway (left) chainsawing, while Ken Beach (right) holds the lean-to corner with a pry bar. Don Stack photo. Top facing page photo: Mike Thul (left) and Ron Dobra carrying a nice, flat rock to provide a firm foundation for the repaired shelter. Don Stack photo.
# MATC ORDER FORM

**Quantity** | **Description** | **Price**
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| Maps may be ordered separately: | 
| Members $9.00 each Map, Non Members $8.00 each Map |  | 
| Map #1 - Katahdin to Nahmakanta Lake (Nesowadanhtunk Stream, Abi Bridge, Rainbow Lake Area) |  | 
| Map #2 - Nahmakanta Lake to West Branch of the Pleasant River (Jo-Mary, White Cap Mtn., Gulf Hagas) |  | 
| Map #3 - West Branch of the Pleasant River to Monson (Darren-Chairback Range, Wilson Valley Area) |  | 
| Map #4 - Monson to the Kennebec River (Piscataquis River, Moxie Bald, Pleasant Pond Area) |  | 
| Map #5 - Kennebec River to Maine Highway 27 (Ferrie Pond, Carry Ponds, Bigelow Mtn. Area) |  | 
| Map #6 - Maine Highway 27 to Maine Highway 17 (Sugarloaf, Saddleback Mtn., Sabbath Day Pond Area) |  | 
| Map #7 - Maine Highway 17 to Maine-New Hampshire State Line (Bemis Mtn., Grafton Notch, Mahoosuc Notch Area); Also includes the new Grafton Loop Trail. |  | 
| Unfolded Maine AT Maps - MATC members $10.00, Non-members $12.00 |  | 
| Map 1 Katahdin to South End of Nahmakanta Lake 13"x30" |  | 
| Map 2 Nahmakanta Lake to West Branch of the Pleasant River 13"x30" |  | 
| Map 3 West Branch of the Pleasant River to Monson 13"x22.5" |  | 
| Map 4 Monson to the Kennebec River 13"x30" |  | 
| Map 5 Kennebec River to Maine Highway 27 13"x30" |  | 
| Map 6 Maine Highway 27 to Maine Highway 17 13"x30" |  | 
| Map 7 Maine Highway 17 to Maine-New Hampshire State Line 13"x37.5" |  | 

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<td><em>Along Maine's Appalachian Trail</em> Book by David Field</td>
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<td>MATC Members $18.69 plus $3.93 tax and $3.50 shipping.</td>
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Mail to: Barbara Gorrell, Secretary, MATC, PO Box 55, Gray, ME 04039
The MAINEtainer

is the newsletter of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of MATC, its members, officers, or directors. The MAINEtainer is published five times a year. Our mission as a club is to construct, maintain, and protect the section of the Appalachian Trail extending from Katahdin to Route 26 in Grafton Notch, and those side trails, campsites, and shelters accepted for maintenance by the club. We seek to make accessible for hiking the wild region of Maine through which the trail passes. The MAINEtainer welcomes letters, feedback, and information from members and friends of the trail. Send your comments, photos, and information to:

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Visit us at www.matc.org

MATC relies on you!

The support of members and donors helps to maintain 267 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Maine.

Membership
□ Individual $15  □ Family $20  □ Organization $25

Annual Contribution / Suggested Giving Levels
□ $10,000+ Katahdin  □ $500 Crocker
□ $5,000 Bigelow  □ $250 Baldpate
□ $2,500 Saddleback  □ $100 Old Blue
□ $1,000 Whitecap  □ $50
□ _____ other

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Make check payable to MATC.
Clip and mail form to: Maine Appalachian Trail Club
Elsa J. Sanborn, Treasurer
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Veteran MATC volunteer, Steve Innes, pictured here performing boundary maintenance work, passed away unexpectedly in October. He was 55 years old.

Tony Barrett photo.