

# THE RESUSCITATOR

THE OH ASSOCIATION 17 Brenner Drive, Newton, New Hampshire 03858

*The OH Association is former employees of the AMC Huts System whose activities include sharing sweet White Mountain memories*

**L**INKING UP WITH your hut buddies has never been easier, and we're taking steps to make it easier still. Over the past year your Steering Committee has been working hard to spruce up [www.ohcroo.com](http://www.ohcroo.com), produce full-color on-line editions of the Resuscitator, and administer OH pages on Facebook and LinkedIn (enter "O.H. Association" for both). The only tweets you'll hear are still coming from Black-capped Chickadees, but if anyone wants to help develop an OH Twitter account, we're all ears. If it worked for the Egyptians, think of what it could do for us.

Keeping our communications current with how people actually keep in touch is just part of the package. The OH is equally committed to meeting other needs of our members—particularly younger OH—whether it's access to job leads and career advice via LinkedIn, or linking to your former hutmaster's blog while trekking the backside of beyond. Feel free to contact me personally to let me know how we're doing. This is your organization, and we welcome your input.

Another new trend is live music at reunions. If you play an acoustic instrument, bust it out. Open jams are now part of every reunion, in addition to the usual tomfoolery. Please join us for the annual Spring Reunion at the Cabin, May 14. Current croo get the special rate for lobsters, clams, apple pie, vanilla ice cream, and the chance to tell more lies than anyone else. Fall reunion is in the works as well: November 12th, at the Highland Center.

If anyone needs an excuse to get into the hills between those dates, check out the OH dedication for the newly rebuilt Madison Hut over the weekend of June 18th, with the official ceremony on the 19th. Any and all are also invited to join a reunion of former Galehead croos on July 9th, hosted by Bob Krietler and Arny Cary as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. Way to go, guys! To make resis, just dial Pinkham and get out that Visa.

And as long as you have that card in hand, go to [www.ohcroo.com](http://www.ohcroo.com) and pay your OH dues if you haven't done so already. You can now do Paypal through our website! This is my public radio fundraiser schpiel: we really, really need your support to help us keep the Cabin in good repair, insured, heated, and otherwise ready to host you and your friends and family for whatever mountain adventure you care to plan. Best damn \$25 you'll ever spend (\$20 if you're under 25).

Last but not least, your Steering Committee meets every month or so at Lester's in Burlington. If you're local and going to school or finally working a "real" job, we'd love it if you could join us for great barbeque while we pretend to make important decisions. Details on the website.



[stroker@alumni.clarku.edu](mailto:stroker@alumni.clarku.edu)

## Save the Dates 2011

Details to email later and on website

### May 14 Cabin Spring Reunion

Prepay seafood \$30, \$15 current croo and kids under 14. Non-seafood is \$12, \$10 for croo & kids. 12:00 lunch; 4:00 lobster dinner. Email Moose Meserve at [jemkpm@comcast.net](mailto:jemkpm@comcast.net) and mail check to 17 Brenner Drive, Newton, NH 03858



It will be warmer in June at the new Madison

### June 19 Madison Opening

Come visit the new hut as day trip or overnight. We're holding a block of bunks for OH. Call AMC resi line 603 466 2727 and refer to OH group number 164715. Call before May 20 when our group block will be released.

### July 9 Bob & Arny's 50th Galehead Anniversary

Celebrate with Bob Krietler and Arny Cary. We're holding a block of bunks for OH. Call AMC resi line 603 466 2727 and refer to 50th Reunion Group Number 160674. Call before May 9 when our group block will be released.

### October 8-9 Cabin Oktoberfest

Traditional work for Bavarian virtuals feast. Email Moose Meserve at [jemkpm@comcast.net](mailto:jemkpm@comcast.net) that you are coming to plan the provisions.

### November 12 Fallfest Annual Meeting at Highland Center

Details to come.

[www.ohcroo.com](http://www.ohcroo.com) for current news

**IT'S ALWAYS A WELCOME** surprise to find past OH memorabilia dug up by OH who have located scrapbooks and pictures of their era in the huts. Walter Graff called last March and said he'd been tending a box of AMC-related items that he had tucked away in a corner in his Pinkham office and had been meaning to have AMC and OH archives look through these treasures to sort out what was relative. The box had been left by Frances Richardson of Conway, NH. Her father Rodney Woodward and her uncle Leroy Woodard had worked in the huts in the late 1920s into the 1930s, and much of her father's collection had duplicates of photographs, articles, and collectibles that she thought the club should have. A quick look through the box indicated this was the tip of an iceberg of OH-AMC treasures. Her father Rod had worked from 1928 to 1937 for Joe Dodge, starting at Madison and finishing as Joe's assistant manager. Leroy, several years older than Rod, had worked at Lakes and Greenleaf. Rod possessed many of the mechanical skills for which Joe was so well known as the hut system was expanded to the Western Division in the time frame of the early 30s. Rod also possessed a remarkable artistic and creative talent that would serve him well after he left the huts and settled first in Jackson, then North Conway. Both brothers left their indelible artistic and creative legacies around the Mount Washington Valley—Rod who became a recognized New Hampshire Craftsman working out of his Artisan Shop on Rt.16 (still standing as a tavern just north of the Stonehurst Restaurant), and Leroy whose paintings of Mt. Washington from the Wildcat Trail and Tuckerman's Ravine represent some of the finest skiing art of the 1930s. Reproductions of Leroy's originals can be found at the New England Ski Museum and as the website logo for the Randolph Mountain Club. Rod cast the bronze seal of the AMC that was part of the sign in front of the old Trading Post when Rt.16 ran where the new parking lot is located. He also designed and built the wooden packboard known to a generation of hutmen as the Freighter which preceded the corset packboard design of today. His blueprints and sales sheet for his Freighter, together with a signed pack board which his daughter presented to the club, have been on display in the AMC Library. A glimpse of Rod and Leroy's lives while working in the huts has been preserved through pictures, press clippings and correspondence which Frances Richardson has meticulously collected in her home. It's because of her willingness to share the Woodard legacy that the following biographies and selected photographs are printed below.



Rod and Leroy Woodard relaxing at Madison

**RODNEY D. WOODARD** was born on April 18, 1905 in Campello, Brockton, Massachusetts, the son of Charles F. (a last manufacturer in the shoe industry where Rodney established a love for wood carving) and Eva V. (Reynolds) Woodard. He attended the Brockton schools and joined the Boy Scouts of America in 1917, Troop 4 in Campello. He was an active member becoming Assistant Scout Master from 1923 to 1930. Rodney was a graduate of Wentworth Institute from the machinist and woodworking schools in the Class of 1924.

He was employed as a machinist for the Darlo Company in Boston for a short time. His love of classical music was stimulated from this time, since he went to concerts at Symphony Hall. He often recounted sitting on the stage when Ignacy Paderewski gave a recital. His interest in sculpture was aroused at this time also, when he visited the Museum of Fine Arts where his brother, Leroy, was an art student.

Rod made his first trip to the White Mountains in 1924 with Bob Jackson and Ned Whitmore. He returned to the mountains in 1926 to become a hut boy packing goods up the mountains to the huts. Because he could not carry large loads, he was made the Hut Master of Madison Spring Huts from 1928 to 1931. He then became the Assistant Manager to Joe Dodge at the Pinkham Notch Headquarters. After an unfortunate disagreement with Joe, Rod left the AMC in

January, 1937 to live in Jackson, NH with his new wife, Leta M. (Church) of Gorham, NH. It was at the suggestion of his friends that he settle in the area because of the growing interest in the development of winter sports in the Valley. Soon after, Rod and Leta bought the guest house on the Bigelow-Merriman Estate (now Stonehurst) in Intervale, part of North Conway, NH. There, Rodney opened THE ARTISAN SHOP, his own woodworking and machine shop at the rear of the house. He became a renowned designer craftsman creating custom-made items, his own machinery and tools, furniture, and many pieces of fine art. Over the door of his shop, he carved a plaque with a quote from John Ruskin, "When we build, let us think that we build forever".

While Rodney was employed by the AMC, he spent time working on mapping the Mt. Washington area. Eventually he copyrighted the process of making Plasticine proforma, pouring Plaster of Paris over them to create negative molds, then casting bronze models, over which celluloid was molded to create relief maps of Franconia Notch, Crawford Notch, and Pinkham Notch. When the US Government got into the business of making relief maps, the large commercial map companies sued the Government saying that they had invented the process. The government checked the Library of Congress and the Patent Office and sent two lawyers to see Rodney's materials which they took back to Washington, DC

helping them win their case.

If there was a problem which needed solving, Rod would invent something. A case in point was the first Freighter Pack Board used by the AMC in 1931. The objective of the invention was "to improve a device to carry large awkward loads with a minimum of fatigue to man". Rod also noted that ski boots curled as they dried out, so he invented the first Ski Boot Press in 1941. The outside ski boot press flattened the soles and let the air circulate inside to permit complete drying. It would fit any size boot. The original is now at the New England Ski Museum in Franconia, NH.

Rod stayed close to skiing and made ski racks for cars, put steel edges on skis, fixed bindings, and repaired skis. He handcarved hundreds of trophies that were awarded by clubs to winners of ski races. In later years he made commemorative plaques including an AMC Distinguished Service Award plaque in March, 1976, and a plaque made for the Lake of the Clouds Hut in memory of Ted Fuller. Rod kept lifetime contact with friends he made in the AMC. Among these were Alexander MacKenzie, Bob and Merriam Underhill, Wen and Jean Lees, Tony Samuelson, Santa and Margaret Lewis, and Bob Jackson.

A keen observer of the natural world, Rod noted in the 1950s that, on the mountains at treeline, there was increasing evidence of die-back of the upper branches of the conifers. He set about chronicling the Atomic Energy Commission tests in Nevada and watching the weather patterns across the country over the following five day period. When he saw lenticular clouds accompanied by heavy rain over the Mount Washington Valley each time there had been an explosion, he became convinced that the government was withholding information about Strontium-90 fallout. Only recently have Rod's observations and theory been verified, explaining the die-back and incidence of cancer and thyroid cases in the areas of fallout.

"Bas Relief" plaques were one of Rod's joys because it gave him an opportunity to portray sites and events which were part of the legend and history of the Valley. In 1956 he depicted the first passage of a horse in 1771 through Crawford Notch over Sawyer Rock in Bartlett, proving that a route could be used for trade through the mountains. In 1976, Rod was working on a bust of Jigger Johnson, a woodsman, which is now at the US Forest Service's Saco Ranger District Visitor Information Center in Conway, NH. To look around Rod's shop, one could see fine cabinet work, figures, busts, carvings, bowls, picture frames, and plaques all made from native woods. He was commissioned to fashion several Commemorative Plaques for retiring members from the Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association, incorporating symbols of their personal professions, hobbies, and organizations they belonged to. The recipients were Howard Hanlon, Kenneth Handcock, R. Ernest Broderick and John DeMott. With the popularity of summer camps for children, some of the local camps had Rod design and make camp shields to

present to the campers at the end of each season. He also made prizes to be awarded at local art exhibitions.

He became an active member in the League of NH Arts and Crafts (later called The League of NH Craftsmen) in 1937 and served as chairman of the North Conway Council for 25 years. He sold his craft pieces in the local shop and demonstrated wood turning at the Annual Craftsmen's Fair. His mahogany carving of a Barred Owl is in the permanent collection at the League of NH Craftsmen Headquarters in Concord, NH.

During WWII, Rod recognized the need to contribute to the safety of the Valley. He took his turn on duty watching for foreign aircraft as a Air Raid Warden in North Conway. Later his community spirit reached to giving woodworking classes for boys in the Community Center, and through the CARY program (Crafts for Retirement Years), Rod taught woodcarving in Wolfeboro and in Berlin, NH, and gave private classes in his own shop.

He was asked to make gavels and blocks from cherry wood cut on the grounds of the Mt. Washington Hotel for the 44 delegates from countries around the world who attended the International Monetary Fund Conference held in Bretton Woods in 1944. One of these gavels was presented to President Harry S. Truman. Other orders for gavels and blocks were filled in later years for leaders of countries who became members of the IMF.

In 1947 Rod and Raymond Lowd, who was also a machinist, invented and manufactured a machine called the TETRATOOL which had a lathe, circular saw, drill press, and scroll saw. In 1957, Rod carved a 200 pound birch bowl to make the world's largest salad bowl. A picture showing Rod measuring the bowl with a pair of calipers he made especially for this project became an AP Wirephoto and appeared in newspapers and magazines around the United States. The bowl was 40 inches across and took 100 hours to carve. On the base, he carved a woodsman driving logs down the Androscoggin River. This bowl was presented to Lawrence F. Whittemore, Chairman of the Brown Paper Company in Berlin, NH. In 1959, Rod carved a large birch knur bowl which was exhibited at the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester, NH. This bowl was included in the American Craft Exhibition at the World Agricultural Fair in New Delhi, India in the following year.

When Attitash Ski Slopes were opened in Bartlett in 1965, Abenaki Prince, Stephen Laurent of Intervale, NH, and St. Francis Reservation, Odanak, Canada, gave an Indian blessing. He carried a cheap peace pipe from his Indian Gift Shop. Seeking to improve this artifact, Rod crafted a special peace pipe for Steve with the totems of the Sokoki and Abenaki tribes of the St. Francis Reservation, a turtle and a bear. Rod was a friend and supporter of the causes of many local people.

Surgical tools used to set broken bones were machined by Rodney for Dr. G. Harold Shedd of North Conway and



# Rod Woodard's Album

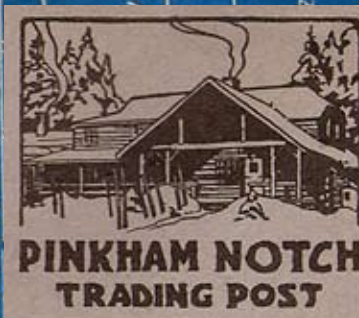
## THE FREIGHTER PACKBOARD.

Designed by R.D Woodard. Copyrighted 1931

Pictures from Rod's albums are placed on his blueprint for the Freighter packboard



View of the Artisan Shop today and 1938



Woodcut and sketch of Pinkham Trading Post



Gorham Fourth of July parade



Never a dull moment at Madison for Rod. Notice the sidearms readily available while panning or swinging a pickaxe, and, yes, that is a bobcat carcass he's holding up at Madison

doctors in other hospitals who saw their usefulness. He carved a Crucifix for the St. Andrews Episcopal Church in New London, NH, a Cross for the Reverence for Life Building at the First Church of Christ Congregational in North Conway, and a bas relief plaque of the Tortoise and Hare from Aesop's Fables for the Children's Room at the Conway Public Library, Conway, NH. He made numerous picture frames for local artists and for Karl Drerup, world famous enamellist. Rod was a Sunday painter, following the family tradition of his father and brother, Leroy, a recognized artist.

Rod passed away on October 29, 1976 and is buried in the North Conway cemetery. He is survived by his two daughters, Norma M. Green of Aberystwyth, Wales, UK and Frances E. Richardson of Conway, NH.

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**LEROY R. WOODARD** was born April 16, 1903 in Brockton, MA, the first son of Charles F. and Eva (Reynolds) Woodard. He attended Brockton Schools and the Museum of Fine Arts School in Boston, MA.

Leroy went to Pinkham Notch in the winter of 1927 and worked at Carter, Lonesome, and Greenleaf. Known for his culinary skills, his Spaghetti Balognaise was a hit at the huts.

On November 2, 1933, he sailed on the SS General von Steuben and landed in Bremen, Germany on November 12, 1933. He traveled through Germany enjoying Munich and Bavaria, before going to Florence, Italy. There he met Marjorie Lang, mother of James Hamilton of the AMC, who was a classmate studying Fine Art on a scholarship from the Museum School. Leroy visited Rome and was fascinated by the immense ancient structures in the city; he then left for Paris, France and London, England. He also spent some time sketching and painting in Devon and Cornwall, England. A lifelong hankering for Caerphilly cheese stemmed from this experience in the West of England. He embarked for New York on the SS Bremen, landing on June 28, 1934.

Leroy established an art studio in the Old Town Hall attic in Randolph, NH which looked out over Mt. Washington and the Presidential Range. Here he met and later marry the portrait artist Margaret Arnold of Cambridge who summered in Randolph.

His artistic legacy lives on in Randolph where he was also active in the Randolph Mountain Club. He designed a travel brochure for the town and the original Randolph highway sign. He made RMC signs for Crag Camp and the Perch and painted a round watercolor of Madison and Adams for the RMC's membership patch that is used for as the club's logo and displayed on their website. A version of the same design graces RMC-T-shirts.

He designed leaflets for the AMC and calendars for the Mt. Crescent House as well as making etchings and paintings.

The New England Ski Museum has published reproductions of his 1938 Tuckerman Ravine painting as a post card and on the cover of Leff Leich's *Over the Headwall: A Short History of Skiing in Tuckerman Ravine*. Leroy's original paintings of Tuckerman Ravine and Huntington Ravine, painted from the top of the old Wildcat trail, would be the pride of any Northeast ski painting collector specializing in period art from the 1930s.

His faithful companion, Tom, a German shepherd, and all his art gear had to be left with his brother, Rod, when Leroy was called to serve in the Army in 1942. Initially, he was stationed at Camp Pickett, Virginia to train in the Medical Replacement Unit as a field and hospital technician. On October 2, 1942 he was sent to Fort Devens, and was taken out of the Medical training classes and asked to paint signs which Leroy said in a letter home written December 28, 1942, "This isn't my idea of winning the war but if these things have to be done, why I will do this". Among some of his assignments were to make signs for a war bond drive, a plaque to be awarded for the best barracks at inspection time, and diagrams and signs for the hospital. He also did portrait sketches of the men and had a long list of orders. "It amazed them that anyone can just look at a person and then make a likeness", he wrote in a January 19, 1943 letter to his brother, Rod.

Upon his medical discharge from the military on April 14, 1943, he married Margaret Holmes Arnold on May 1, 1943, and took up employment as a Technical Illustrator for General Electric in Boston.

Many people will remember waiting in anticipation for a woodblock print, a linoleum block print or an etched Christmas card which he created each year. Leroy had numerous art exhibitions of his paintings and etchings of the White Mountains. One was held at the Appalachian Mountain Club Headquarters, Boston, MA from March 11-30, 1929. He had other exhibitions, notably, at the Ravine House, Randolph, NH; the Development Commission, Concord, NH; the family Counselling Service, Wayland, MA; the Medical Center, Wayland, MA; and the Currier Art Gallery, Manchester, NH. In later years, he was commissioned to design and paint backdrops for the exhibits at the Audubon Society Natural History Museum in Weston, MA.

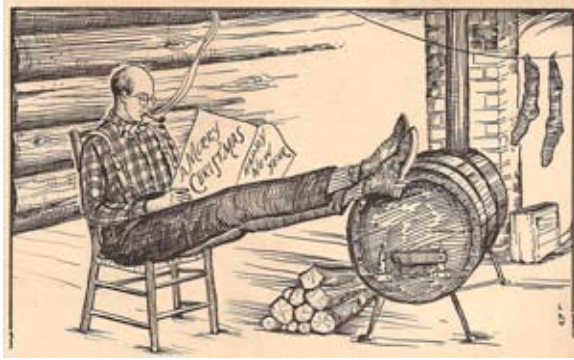
Leroy had a dry sense of humor which was often a comment on some situation. He often called things "curious".

Leroy R. Woodard died September 9, 1985 in Wayland, MA. He is survived by his son, Charles A. Woodard and family of Calais, VT, and his daughter, Sandra (Woodard) Cathey and family of Middlesex, VT.

*Thanks to Frances Richardson who supplied the Woodard biographies and shared pictures from her album collection.*



# Leroy Woodard's Art



Leroy's sketch of Rod



Enamel pin of Chocorua



View of Tuck from the old Wildcat trail



Randolph Mountain Club logo



Tuck cover and postcard

# Hutman's Rest Home Evans Notch Hut

*Bruce Sloat recalls Evans Notch,  
the eighth hut before Mizpah was built*



**EVANS NOTCH HUT**, or better known as the hutman's rest home, was operating in 1951, the first summer I worked for the AMC. Mary Sloat says it was still operational in 1957. It closed shortly after that year. It never had heavy use, but for the crew, it was the best. For most of the years it operated it was run by a couple Ed and Jerry Wicks from Morristown, NJ. The huts did not have huge crews in those days, and with 2 1/2 days off every two weeks, the Wicks took days off together. Joe Dodge would send over a so-called floater to cover the days off period. Normally this days off period was a disaster and Ed would expound on the tragedy each time after they returned and faced up to the mess. It was called the hutman's rest home due to the accommodations enjoyed by the crew. The hut building, Brickett Farm, was an historic valley farm of brick construction with central heating, never used. The attic area was open and used by visiting hut crews on their days off. The downstairs was the dining room, common room, kitchen with beautiful wood range and water heater, bedroom with double bed, and adjacent bathroom with hot shower and flush toilet. The guests hauled their water in a bucket from a faucet on the side of the building to the wash area and used enamel basins. The wash area was uncovered and adjacent to the two one-hole outhouses. The guest accommodations consisted of two 16 x 16 foot tent platforms with two WWII squad tents and 8 cots each. The guests had use of a dozen or so kerosene lanterns while the crew and common room had electricity provided by a 1.5KW Kohler in the shed/garage. At that time the Hut System had three trucks,

one of which was stored over the winter in the garage. It was a routine at some time in the late spring to retrieve the truck and turn on the water which was supplied by a huge spring on the hill behind. We also mowed the lawn and had in general a day of relaxation after putting up the hammocks. Oh yes, the crew had screens on the windows, the tents had none. Ed Wicks mowed the lawn and split the firewood for the stove. Jerry turned out fantastic meals. As storehouse keeper that summer of 1951, I had occasion to visit many times. Because the hut was in the state of Maine, I once asked Joe as to why we did not collect a sales tax on the items sold over the counter. Reply by Joe, "Bruce that thought never ever crossed my mind, after a pause—Bruce lets just say nothing". Ed and Jerry Wicks, after retirement from teaching, were part of a group of fall guests we had at Pinkham for many years.

AMC librarian, Becky Fullerton found some of the hut pictures in the archives and supplied a bit more history that the Forest Service had asked the AMC to operate the Brickett Place as lodging in 1948, which the club did, opening in 1948 until it was turned back to the Forest Service in the fall of 1957. According to Ray Lavender, Councilor of Huts that year, it had been "quite a financial liability on the system for a number of years." Tom Deans remembers being sent over to mow the lawn several times while he was working as rookie croo at Pinkham in 1956—coincidentally with Mary Edgerton who would later become Mary Sloat. After the Forest Service took the Brickett Place back, it was used by a Boy Scout Troop.



*Bruce and Mary Sloat spend their winters in Snowmass, CO skiing almost every day (last year Bruce skied 110 days!). He admits to being a bit behind this year, but he does enjoy the 40% discount while savoring his morning cocoa. He is staying off the double black trails. Mary teaches skiing part time during the peak season.*



# In Memoriam

**Special Member Frank Kelliher**, age 75, died Thursday March 17, 2011 in Cambridge, MA. Frank was a Navy veteran, serving on the destroyer USS Lofberg. He was the 2009 recipient of the Joe Dodge Award, a past president of the AMC, and a tireless Info Volunteer for the AMC. He faithfully attended Steering Committee meetings, and, though handicapped, drove his van to the Tip Top House to attend last year's MMVSP Picnic. Donations to the Red Cross may be made in his name.

**Vincent A. Lamanna**, age 83, died on October 18, 2010, at the Maples Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Wrentham, MA surrounded by the comfort of his loving family. He was the son of the late Phillip and Rose (Sassone) Lamanna. Known as Vinny to all his OH friends, he was born in Lynn on June 17, 1927. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended Lynn English High School and Bentley College. He lived in Foxborough for the past 54 years. He worked for the Foxboro Company for over 35 years and retired as a senior systems analyst in 1985. He was an avid outdoorsman and worked as the storehouse manager at Pinkham for Joe Dodge from 1948 through 1950. Joe affectionately called him Vinny the Guinea after he cooked up a big spaghetti feed for the crew. Years after Vinny left the Hut System, current croos enjoyed a big spaghetti dinner called Guinea Night at the OH cabin. He attended many of the OH winter and spring reunions and was a past treasurer of the OH Steering Committee. He also served on the Mount Washington Volunteer Ski Patrol where he participated in many rescue operations. He was also a member of the U. S. Naval Institute and the Tin Can Sailors Association. He loved classical music and the opera and was a member of the Neponset Choral Society. He was married to Virginia (Smith) for 55 years and leaves behind a son John who worked on the trail crew, a daughter Stephanie, her husband Paul Mullins, and daughter Jennifer of Foxboro. Donations in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 311 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472, the AMC, 5 Joy Street, Boston, MA 02108, or the Mt. Washington Observatory, PO Box 2310, North Conway, NH 03860.

**Augustas Peterle**, 93, died Friday, June 23, 2010. Gus had returned to Stonington in 2008 from his longtime home in West Wardsboro, Vt. He was born Gustav Peterle Jr. on Nov. 28, 1916 in Amesbury, where he grew up and graduated high school. He worked in the CCC's in Vermont and the Amesbury Hat Factory. During World War II from 1941 to 1945 he served as a propeller mechanic for the 3030th AAF Base in North Africa, Sicily, China, Burma and India, reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant. Gus loved the outdoors and fishing, was

an old hutman with the Appalachian Mt. Club and was dubbed the "Amesbury fish" in high school for his mastery of the mile ocean swimming race.

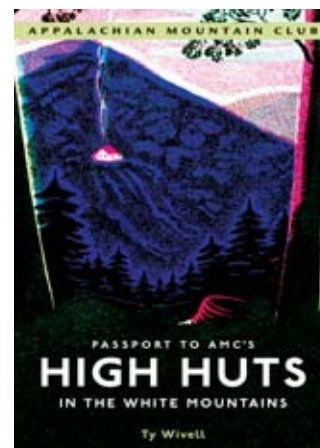
**Polly McLane Lit**, 92, died peacefully with family members at her side on April 30, 2010 at RiverMead Retirement Community in Peterborough, NH. Polly was born Mary Andrews Smith in Braintree, MA on October 25, 1917, the daughter of Ralph and Margaret Smith. She graduated from Thayer Academy in 1934 and Phi Beta Kappa from Wellesley College in 1938, then taught school in Mississippi before returning to a legal secretary job at Hale & Dorr in Boston. New Hampshire became her home when she spent the WWII years as secretary to Joe Dodge at the Appalachian Mountain Club in Pinkham Notch, at the foot of Mt. Washington. Polly loved that experience, and it was there that she met Peter McLane. Polly next worked as secretary to the headmaster at Holderness School, and she and Peter were married in the school chapel there in 1946. Polly and Peter lived in Sugar Hill and Manchester, where they raised their four sons. She returned to work as Executive Assistant to the Director at the Youth Development Center, then at UNH's Merrimack Valley Branch, and finally, into her 70's, at the Webster House for Children, all in Manchester. After Peter McLane died in 1970, Polly developed an interest in watercolor painting and stained glass work, and was able to travel several times with Elderhostel groups. In 1991, Polly married David Lit, and lived with him in Washington, D.C. and Campton, NH before moving to RiverMead in Peterborough in 1996. In their short time together they enjoyed many trips, Polly's favorite being an around-the-world journey on a ship with Semester-at-Sea. David Lit died in 1996, and Polly spent her remaining years with the wonderful, caring community at RiverMead. Polly is survived by her sons Andy, Bruce, Douglas and their families, plus eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They were all inspired by her devotion to her family.

**Bruce Graham** died May 19, 2009. He worked at Greenleaf at 1954-1955 and was living in Camas, WA.

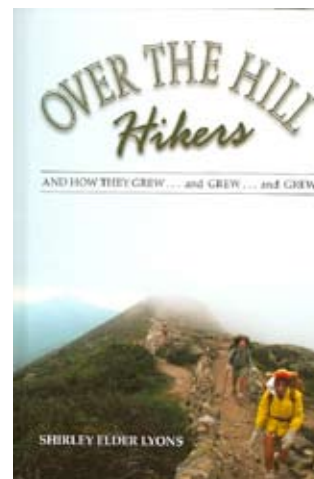
**Alan G. Lewis Jr.** died March 17, 2010. He worked at Madison in 1944-1945 and Lakes in 1947 and was living in Simsbury, CT.

**Melvin McKenna** died February 21, 2010. He was the head cook at Pinkham in the 1960s. He was retired and living in Lancaster, NH. Some of us remember his accepting the challenge to hike down to Lakes, the only hut he ever visited.

# Gormings

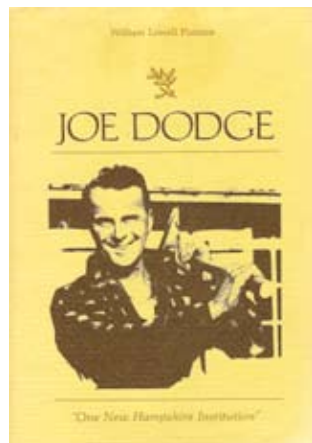


**Y**EP, finally a book about the huts. AMC Books just published *Passport to AMC's High Huts in the White Mountains* written by Ty Wivell that describes all the huts and their history. Full of croo references, OH Syd Havely, Willy Ashbrook, Ben Campbell and of course Joe Dodge made the cut. There's a glossary in the back of hut terms, and Nick Howe, Chris Stewart, Mike Torrey, and Fred Stott are mentioned for their books which were among the references to help pack a lot of history and information into this affordable and handy paperback. Just \$10 from AMC Books ([www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org)) or pick up a copy at Pinkham.



Another little book, *Over the Hill Hikers And How They Grew...and Grew...and Grew* by Shirley Elder Lyons about Special Member Lib McGregor Crooker Bates initiative about forming a retiree hiking group in Center Sandwich, NH, more than sixty completing the AMC 4000 foot list. Lib is from a long line of OH: daughter of Red Mac McGregor who hired Joe Dodge, sister of Art Skiwx MacGregor, son Charlie Crooker,

daughter *Connie Crooker*, and great niece *Carol Anne Black*. Hard cover bound, the book can be bought at Pinkham and through Amazon.



Deacon Sleeper's son *Andrew* who would like to present every hut and AMC lodge (fourteen in all) a copy of the 1986 out-of-print *Bill Putnam's* biography of *Joe Dodge*. Andrew has collected nine copies from booksellers, but we need another five to make sure all the facilities get a copy. If you happen to have a spare copy, let *Jim Hamilton* know at [jhamilton@outdoors.org](mailto:jhamilton@outdoors.org). The copies will have a bookplate inserted about Joe's legacy and what he meant to Andrew's dad.

*Syd Havelly* has a potential best-seller book soon to be published: *Subaru America—Getting Traction*. This history of Subaru, one the most popular and reliable cars in the northeast, should be an Amazon bestseller. Meanwhile, Syd teaches a UPenn organization dynamics graduate student class that was introduced last summer as a North Country introductory workshop field trip. Using a partnership of facilities and instructors, he visited the DOC, OBS, Highland Center, and Lakes coming away with high compliments for *Walter Graff* and *Peter Crane*, both of whom helped in the organization. Good news is he just found a condo in Intervale that overlooks Mt. Washington. "It's high time I stopped mooching off *Jeff* and *Martha Leich* and found my own place up here!"

*Willy Ashbrook* thanks over seventy OH for stepping up and making the Spirit of Madison Campaign a resounding success. Over a hundred contributors, raised \$1,500,000 for building and endowing the new hut. The weekend of June 17-19 will be the official opening celebration with Sunday, June 19 being OH day with a block of bunks reserved for OH, but make reservations before May 20 when the hold will be released. See the calendar on page one for making reservations.

Willy will be busy again this year chairing the AMC's bequest program called **TEAM WILLY—Will I Leave a Legacy, Yes!** This spring and summer, Willy and AMC staff will be visiting club gatherings,

huts, lodges, and facilities to show how easy it is to add an AMC bequest to a will, a codicil, an IRA, or a life insurance policy. There is no minimum, and he hopes to recruit 100 new members to the AMC Summit Society by year's end. Email Willy at [willy@outdoors.org](mailto:willy@outdoors.org) for details or questions.

Thanks to *Dave Moskowitz* and *John Thompson* for volunteering during construction at Madison this fall and for John's making cribbage boards out of the old floor which were sold at Fallfest and the AMC annual meeting.

*Fred* and *Glanthia Preston* have moved to Kendal in Hanover, NH. They lived in Montpelier, VT, and have long been active in Lakes Region Conservation Trust.

*Lindsay Bourgoine* has become the AMC Maine Policy assistant to *J. Bryan Wenzell*. Her new job includes working with the Maine communities surrounding the club's new properties in the Maine Woods and doing policy advocacy with the Maine legislature. Her six years in the huts gave her a good foundation for this kind of work.

Had a nice talk with *Marty Womer*, who skied into the Maine camps the winter of 2010, not in the OH group, but with his family. One of the good suggestions he made was for better signage for the loop trails around the Lyford Ponds, which has now been done. Who needs to miss cocktails trying to get back at twilight because you went left instead of right? Marty works for the Center for Elder Law in Maine and has been huts fill-in crew for 20 years.

*Stephen Rushmore* just joined the AMC Board of Advisors. He lives in Rye, NY, and worked at Madison in the '90s (where his interest was kindled in good food and hospitality), went on to study hotel management at Cornell, and now is CFO for HVS, a global hospitality consulting group in NY. But his real passion is discovering good value roadside eateries throughout the United States and sharing this information on his websites [Roadfood.com](http://Roadfood.com) and [RoadfoodDigest.com](http://RoadfoodDigest.com).

You won't hear this from our illustrious chair *Stroker*, but he too has brought his considerable talent to the AMC Board of Advisors. We all know what he does to restore order and keep the peace at the steering committee, but he also finds time to volunteer on building projects at his other AMC love, Three Mile Island. He has contributed articles to *Appalachia* through the years and written the history of the AMC's Three Mile Island camp. In his own words, Stroker writes, "These days if I'm not working, goofing off in the woods, or volunteering my time at Three Mile Island Camp for the AMC, I'm probably playing music. I released a CD of original material a few months ago, "Sexual Intellectual," with the help of 45 of Boston's better roots musicians. If someone had told me how much work it was, I never would have done it. Kind of like my first pack trip, ignorance is bliss. Anyone wishing a copy can contact me at [stroker@alummi.clarku.edu](mailto:stroker@alummi.clarku.edu)."

Stroker joins *Sandy Saunders*, *Andy*

*McLane*, *Steve Rushmore*, *Tommy Deans*, and *Special Member Sam Pryor* on the AMC Board of Advisors, and now with *Ellen Hartwell Blais*, *Dave Warren*, *Willy Ashbrook* and *Special Member Nelson Obus* on the Board of Directors, there's quite a presence of OH involved in club affairs and helping to plan the future.

*Roger Smith* has been looking through his old hut pictures and has sent us some fine vintage shots of Lakes and Greenleaf. How about when Lakes only had 40-lb. goofer bombs to fire up those big stoves to feed a full house? The cookie must have been running outside all day to switch bombs. Rog also has a great story about how he met his future wife Joan at Greenleaf that we'll try to tuck in someplace in the future.

Met *Mike Parker* March 2010 for our OH camp-to-camp Maine ski trip and was delighted to have him show off his expertise on skis, particularly when it's time to wax. When we could slow him down long enough to chat, he mentioned an interesting twist on

skiing he and another backcountry expert like to do: river-skiing on frozen Maine rivers far from roads and civilization. Do they ever break through? Ask Mike. Mike was also the unofficial guide who helped get a bunch of Class of 1965 Dartmouth geezers to summit Moosilauke for their 45th reunion this past June.

*Paul Buffum* married off daughter *Lori* not once, but twice first in Chicago, then in October in Wilton, NH. Not to worry, same husband.

*Harry Adams* lives in Kansas, worked construction in the '50s (where he remembers rebuilding the floor at Madison), and later worked in the '60s at Pinkham. He is retired from the aviation business. He sent us a bunch of circa-1950s photographs and some OH hats and T-shirts he'd ordered through the years. He wrote an article for *Appalachia* about the RMC Spur Camp and also took the picture for the cover. His brother was *Norman Adams*, who worked at Crag Camp in 1945.

*Jon Hubbard*, now living in Chicago and working in corporate communications for Dennison, remembers a Guinea Night in the '60s where a trick was played on *Linus Story*. What would that be? Couldn't be the pink belly, unless Linus learned it there, and then became a master administrator of the hoax. Jon's dad worked for S.S. Pierce, which supplied all the canned goods to the hut system.

The Madison calls found *Beth Liversidge Fluke*, who was living in Philly but summering at her place in York, ME. Beth spent a summer at Pinkham in the early '60s, then went on to building a successful jewelry business in Philly and another in the new Legacy shopping area in Dedham, MA, which her children are now running. It was nice to see her at the MMVSP Traverse in June. Welcome back!

*Larry Goss*, recently retired from his full-time faculty position at Salem State

University, was hired by *George Hamilton* after his connection at Camp Belknap. Larry spent some time in Hong Kong with *Dick Low*. Larry also worked on the Old Man Memorial Committee with *Brian Fowler*.

Another call was to *Brooks Van Everen*, who is living with OH wife *Petie* in Lafayette, CO. Brooks was a good friend of George's and has a family camp in NH.

*Larry Kilham* has published an e-book available on Amazon as a download to your Kindle or iPad. The title is *Mega-minds*, and it's all about tapping your inner creative. He is no stranger to publishing, having written an earlier book which he printed on-demand, but sees a future in e-books since they are immediately available for less than \$10. Larry plans to take his Megaminds talk to business groups.

Last August *Stretch Hayes* had a Lonesome reunion with '50s trail crew buddies *Joel Nichols*, *Doug Rankin* and *Maria Van Dusen*. Sorry if we left out some of the other ladies who attended, since Doug's wife *Mary Backus* also worked at Pinkham. Doug has submitted an article about his trail crew days to *Appalachia*.

Another trail crew from the '50s, *Ben English*, who lives in Jackson, was featured in the current issue winter *Appalachia* in an interview with Doug Mayer and *Rebecca Oreskes*. It's good that the trail crew history is finally being published, since it's a remarkable one of great camaraderie and outdoor work that should make some of us on the hut side more appreciative of their efforts as they left their mark in the woods.

We met *Peter Orvedt*, an architect in Toronto, at the Madison OH Closing Party and were entertained by his monologue about his summers at Madison and Mizpah in the '60s, the first year working with *Willy Ashbrook*. He was hired by *George Hamilton* sight unseen.

At the same party, *Clem Adams* remembered *Tony Macmillan* taking command of the Lincoln Regiment from Hingham, a colonial militia that was formed by Tony to coincide with the Queen's visit to celebrate Boston 200 in 1976. Only Clem can tell the story properly, and we are working on him to write it up to share it with you all. Suffice to say, you could have heard a pin drop as Clem wound up telling another story about Tony.

If you haven't already heard us plugging *Alex MacPhail's* blog, here it is again. Just Google White Mountain Sojourn and it pops right up. A link is also on ohcroo.com. If you haven't visited it, please do, since Alex has created a virtual timeline of White Mountain natural history and hut visits taking you through all the seasons. The photographs are marvelous and his text gives you a good sense of the natural history of the areas he visits. His photographs from Mt. Adams on August 30 at the OH Closing Party on a crisp clear evening and next morning complimented the group of us who hardly ventured from old Chez Belle while enjoying the less strenuous creature comforts. Scrolling down through his blog,

you'll find he has snorkeled all the mountain tarns around the huts with underwater pictures and accompanying commentary. Just after logging on in January, we found his Christmas fill-in at Tucks. Check it out; the whole blog is really well-done and is a great use of digital media to deliver timely information that we just can't produce in print.

We found *Jim Marston* living in Florida, from an inquiry about his wanting to stay at the OH cabin while visiting his son in NH and daughter in ME. He remembers his days at Zealand in '43 and conversing with dead head on the quiet nights with nobody else to talk to. His career was in NH working for the state in engineering after serving in the military in Texas.

Our sympathies to *Helen Hamilton* who recently lost her sister. She has been busy with *George Hamilton's* move to the VFW Hospital in Tilton, NH, where he has better facilities and transportation to his beloved fall Highland Games. George came to lunch at Fallfest and was surrounded by good friends including *General Slim Trefry* and wife *Jacquie*, *Joan Bishop*, *Chuck Kellogg*, *Hanque Parker*, *Jack Middleton*, *Bruce and Mary Sloat*, and the *Van Duran* sisters.

*Bob and Betty Elsner*, who summer on the Cape, but return to Esquer, Alaska for the winter. The view of Denali from their home is spectacular. The Elsners will be remembering her father *Bull Fuller*, who fathered OH sons and daughters inscribed on a bunk plate they donated to Madison.

*Josh Fishkin* worked at Tucks and is presently working in financial services in London. Last I saw on Facebook, he was begging folks on this side of the pond to send "Whatchamacallits." Or was it "Take Fives???" Anyway, sounds like he had a hunkering for some non-Cadbury derivative. His email is tuckscaretaker@hotmail.com.

*Coach Paxson* made a generous gift to Madison and sent the news that he used his hut training for athletic endeavors that were acknowledged in a book of Delaware County sports legends. He was given the Delaware County Sports Hall of Fame award and Southeasterfn Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame award.

The OH Facebook that *Schroeder* set up brought us back in contact with *Herb Kincey*, who worked at PNC in '61 carrying a lofty hutmaster title he never quite understood. He was hired by *George Hamilton* from his home in North Carolina and moved on after the huts to working for Outward Bound in New Mexico, where he now lives in Santa Fe.

*Catherine Amidon* has been involved in getting the Museum of White Mountains started at Plymouth State University, where she is interim director. As director of the Karl Drerup Art Gallery, she organized an exhibition of White Mountain paintings including some of *Andy McLane's* collection. The exhibit, titled "As Time Passes over the Land" ran until April 11. One of the unique qualities of the Museum of the

White Mountains, opening in 2012, is that it will be dedicated to organizing art collections such as this one, preserving collections, and offering educational programs. Much of these collections will be digitally captured and posted making them accessible to many who can't visit, but can access a "museum without walls." We originally heard from Catherine several years ago about plans to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Act, which will kick-off this spring.

*Dave Huntley* also has a connection with the Weeks Act, working with Plymouth State University and the AMC on a video about the history of the White Mountain National Forest and the century-old Act, which enabled legislation that created the eastern national forests. If anyone has a bead on old photos or films of logging in the Whites, please let Dave know. He's also working with NOAA on a documentary about historical marine ecology, using historical artifacts such as fishermen's logs and archaeological evidence to figure out what the oceans used to look like. Never a dull minute with Dave's production company, which allowshim ride to with Jay Leno on his 100-year-old electric car, drag racing the KillaCycle (0-60 in a second), do dinosaur research in New Zealand for the National Geographic Channel, and work on the PBS NOVA Making Stuff series exploring new materials.

*Dawson Winch* and *Peter Grote* were the two OH who went on another *Rick and Celia Wilcox* IME adventure trek this October to Kanchenjunga. Maybe we can get these two to give us a one-two presentation of this place in Nepal, which is more remote than the Everest Highway, the Khumbu Valley when they went on Rick's trip in 2004. Peter dropped by Joy Street to look at the Vittorio Sella photographs of that area taken in the early 1900s. Sella's work is impressive considering the weight of camera and glass negatives required at the time. Peter's work is unique too, since he uses a computerized camera with solar panel-powered batteries on his trek to get panoramic digital shots that show no distortion and have incredible resolution. We're happy to have Peter in one piece these days—seems a snow-covered moose got between him and the road this Christmas in a Franconia white-out. Thankfully when Peter swerved, he emerged unscathed, but one moose went to the happy hunting ground and one car ended up totaled.

*Andy Taylor* was an OH we haven't heard from, so it was his Madison gift that prompted the call to find that he had worked at Lakes in 1957 and then moved on to working at Evans Notch. He wondered why there is no Evans Notch reference on our website croo data base. Hence, the calls that produced the Evans Notch story.

While many may think that the MMVSP's better days are well behind them, this letter of adulation from an (un)fortunate hiker begs to differ! Anne Monoxelos slipped and injured her wrist last



July en route to Lakes and, unbeknownst to her, arrived to find one heck of a fill-in croo. "I am eternally thankful to the following individuals: *Jed Davis, Jim Hamilton, Bill Cox, Gerry Whiting, Trevor Raddford, Brian Fowler, Betsy Corrinia Fowler, Charlie Burnham, Lee Pollock, and Judy Leone*," she wrote in thanks in a letter to Pinkham. The fill-in croo splinted her wrist and guided her out the following day, for which she expressed her gratitude. "I will always remember this hiking experience, not because of my injury, but because of the MMVSP, their stories and special comradeship." If only fill-in croos were eligible for the Latchstring Award.

*Betsy Fowler* welcomed a new grandson, Barrett Macmann Nesbitt, on February 3, 2011, born to *Lesley and John Nesbitt*, and Hunter (his 5-year-old brother) Nesbitt. Lesley and John live in West Concord, MA, and she continues to be the Director of Enrollment Management at the Carroll School in Lincoln, MA. John has graduated with his MSW from Simmons and is a counselor for students at the Carroll School and sees clients at a clinic in Wellesley.

*Brian Fowler* is officially retired, and working gratis on geological maps for the state of NH and serving on the Madison Conservation Commission, the Madison Boulder Advisory Commission, and the Old Man Legacy Fund. In other words, he stays busy enough and likes to read in his spare

time. Brian and Betsy will be hiking together again this summer on geological mapping projects.

*Malin Bengtsson* will be heading back east from Leadville, CO, to Maine this spring to celebrate her sister's wedding. Her rare presence in these parts is much anticipated and should inspire a bunch of early-to-mid-'90s folks, burdened down with kids and such, to gather and revel!

*Emily Muldoon Kathan* is looking forward to a mid-April trip to Jordan. She'll be traveling as a staff host for the MIT Alumni Association, where she works.

*Schroeder* has been doing a great job with the croo Facebook page and sending out event invites. Make sure you stop by and become a group member. It's an easy way to keep in touch! Her news is that she is now working for White Mountain Oil after a long career in procurement at Pinkham. Glad she still is in Jackson, keeping her eye on things, and sending us news.

*Ari Ofsevit* has created a blog **ariwalks.com** and will be posting as he hikes the Pacific Crest Trail starting in April. He plans to finish in time to work fall in the huts. Last summer he was at Madison and worked fall at Greenleaf.

Another YOH *Abby King* will also be starting her hike on the AT this April and will be posting on her blog **hiketheart.wordpress.com**. Last fall she worked at Mizpah and before that, two seasons at

August Camp.

*Doug Hotchkiss* just got back in April from a week of rafting on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon.

[www.ohcrou.com](http://www.ohcrou.com) for current news



The O.H. Association Facebook page has been a great success with over 300 'friends'. Matching those friends to their croo biographies on the OH website isn't easy. But no longer! Whenever you see and click on a blue Facebook icon on the OH website, it will take you over to that person's Facebook profile.

**Editors:** Jim Hamilton, Emily Kathan, and Peggy Dillon. E-mail comments and articles to [hamilton.james@comcast.net](mailto:hamilton.james@comcast.net).

**Picture credits:** page 1, Eric Pedersen; pages 3, 5, Frances Richardson; page 7, Frances Richardson and Randolph Mountain Club; page 8, Tom Deans and AMC Library; page 9, AMC Books, Jim Hamilton; page 10, Jim Hamilton

## 2011 Summer Season Crew

### CARTER

Tobin Traver, HM  
Ashley Adam, AHM  
Levi Keszei  
Cameron Wright  
Molly Muller, Naturalist

### MADISON

George Heinrichs, HM  
Sarah Brocket, AHM  
Miles Howard Colonel  
Leah Hart  
Courtney Croteau  
Johannes Griesshammer, Naturalist.

### LAKES

Nick Anderson, HM  
Jamie Van Lueven, AHM  
Arran Dindorf Dept., AHM  
Hannah Orcutt  
Bill Oedell  
Hannah Taska  
Tom Callahan  
Maya von Wodtke  
Emma Gildesgame, Naturalist  
TBA Research

### MIZPAH

Emma Leonard, HM  
Anna Ready-Campbell AHM  
Patrick Scanlon  
Ryan Koski-Vacirca  
Ben Fox  
Sarah Copelas, Naturalist

### ZEALAND

Jeff Pedersen, HM  
Mary Weir, AHM  
Avery Anderson  
Lauren Plummer  
Jeff Colt, Naturalist

### GALEHEAD

Hilary Burt, HM  
Amie Flemming, AHM  
Phillip Crosby  
Christoph Griesshammer  
Alex Wick, Naturalist

### GREENLEAF

Betsy Cook, HM  
Ben Kinne, AHM  
Phil Bethel  
Anders Nordblom

Kelly Dennen  
Seth Bishop, Naturalist

### LONESOME

Harrison Muskat, HM  
Luke Teschner, AHM  
Uli Botzjourns  
Lily Fender  
Wes Mitchell-Lewis  
Chloe Bourne, Naturalist

*Tucks Caretakers:* Dave Weston  
*Backcountry Education Assistant:* Margaret Graciano  
*Senior Interpretive Naturalist:* Nancy Ritger  
*Huts Field Supervisor:* James Wrigley  
*Huts Manager:* Eric Pedersen