



Randolph Mountain Club Newsletter

The mission of the Randolph Mountain Club is to promote the enjoyment of the Randolph area through hiking, trail development and maintenance, upkeep of camps and shelters, and the sharing of the collective knowledge of its members.

June 2021

Volume 19, No. 1

Solar Projects Completed at Stearns Lodge

by Jamie Maddock

Summer is starting, the sun is shining, and as of mid-May we're generating our own electricity at Stearns Lodge! It was only last fall that the RMC conceived its projects for investing in solar at Stearns and at Gray Knob, and the whole thing went so well and so quickly that all of the Stearns construction is now complete, with only the Gray Knob work remaining for the fall. Thank you to the members and others who contributed, many in memory of my good friend and RMC stalwart Mike Micucci, whose passing in October inspired us to undertake this effort in his memory. The four projects – new roof on Stearns, solar array on the new roof, electric heat pump for the caretaker's quarters, and new panels at Gray Knob – cost nearly sixty thousand dollars, and our campaign for individual donations and foundation grants was completed by April, in time to hire contractors for the spring. I've written up some notes from the stages of the work at Stearns, to explain the pictures and provide some details for those technically inclined. It was a great environmental move for the club, we had a great time doing it, and Mike would have loved it from beginning to end.

First step, roof replacement. Our roofer Rob Judson said the old asphalt shingle roof was pretty beat and needed replacing. Fortunately it had not started leaking and the decking was in good shape. Thanks to Paul Cormier for help in selection of the metal roof system. It's important to have a solid roof for the solar panels and

continued on page 6



Top, the south-facing slope of Stearns Lodge's new metal roof; above, Mike Flanagan of DTL Electric, tilting a solar panel into place. Photos by J. Maddock, Sally Micucci.

Alone on Nowell Ridge

Winter caretaker Abigail Lown reflects on a solitary season on the mountain.



On an afternoon return to Gray Knob from the alpine zone. A. Lown photo.

I lay snugly in my sleeping bag as forceful puffs of wind push the sides of the cabin back and forth with a force palpable from my cozy spot on the floor. I imagine I'm inside a ship that's hit rough water. The structure creaks and moans as the winds shove Gray Knob this way and that. The last bricks in the fire smolder slowly as I drift to sleep, not a soul to tend to and no sounds except the wind against my cabin.

I wasn't sure what to expect of this odd pandemic caretaking in Randolph, but told myself that whatever the circumstances, I would stick it out. Infrequent human sightings, breakfast, lunch and dinner wholly alone. My quiet winter had its lows and boring days, but the majority of the time I made the most of my life up on the ridge. Hours to fill stretching before me on snowy days, confined to my little abode in the clouds. Checking in on Crag Camp daily, rarely any change save for a dumping of snow or the passing through of a pine marten and a few snowshoe hares. I shoveled privy platforms and porches, knocked down my own meager outhouse cone, and hauled water for the use of just one. I developed a sustainable rhythm of daily life that became comforting, tranquil. I had no reason to rise early unless I was going for a hike, as my most time-sensitive matter was to take the bacon out of the cast iron pan when it was perfectly crisp.

continued on page 10

Also in this issue:

- Summer events and trips page 3
- Volunteer work trips page 3
- Trails, Camps, and meet the Crew and Caretakers pages 4,5

- Map Exhibition at Museum of the White Mts. page 8
- From the Archives page 9
- Treasurer's Report page 10

Randolph Mountain Club 2020-2021
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committee chairs and honorary members

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Secretary Randy Meiklejohn, Brookline MA

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Wendy Walsh, Randolph NH

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Trails: Bob Drescher, Benzo Harris

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Stearns Lodge: Paul Cormier

Trips: Mary Minifie

Work Trips: Wendy Walsh

Newsletter: Randy Meiklejohn

Webmaster: Jenna Maddock

Archivist: Al Hudson

Historian: Judy Hudson

Cartographer: Jon Hall

Honorary

members: Bill & Barbara Arnold
Paula Bradley
Al & Judy Hudson
Edith Tucker

www.randolphmountainclub.org
Instagram: @randolphmountainclub

The Randolph Mountain Club is a diverse organization, committed to equal opportunity in employment and program delivery. The RMC prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, military status, veteran status, income level, political affiliation and familial status.

From the President ...



Greetings from the Mediterranean, where I'm laying over between flights. (If you don't already know, I'm a commercial pilot in my day job.) This place is on the same latitude as Dallas, Texas, so the sun is pretty strong, especially now that we're near the summer solstice. The bright sun makes me think of how much power the RMC must be generating, because in the first half of May we put a solar array on the roof of Stearns Lodge, and every sunny day in Randolph is a day we're making our own electricity and stepping away from fossil fuels. Go green RMC!

Going solar has been a great step forward for the club, and during the pandemic it's also been good to have a special project to focus on, while we continued to adjust to the uncertain public health situation that remained mostly out of our control. Trends in New Hampshire and the northeast are improving, but the RMC will still not be completely back to normal this summer. As of early June, our camps, Gray Knob and Crag Camp remain closed to the public, and the other directors and I are considering state and local guidance in the coming weeks as we decide which events and gatherings we can safely sponsor in Randolph. But we are also rebounding with our outdoor activities and operations, especially on RMC trails, where we have hired a larger crew than in 2020. For members willing and able, there will also be volunteer work trips in July and August, with half-day outings to lower-elevation trails, and longer trips to trails higher on the mountain. Whether for volunteer work, a family or group trip or for fine dining (the Gourmet Hike returns in 2021!), hiking is still a very safe outdoor activity and a great way to reconnect with your friends in Randolph. Volunteer work trips also help our budget, by qualifying us for matching grants and allowing our paid trail crew to concentrate on the heavy work.

This will be my last letter to you as President, after serving for six years, and it has been an honor to work with other members of the board, our many volunteers and our camp and trail employees. The past year has been a real challenge, but in fact all of the past six years have brought steady change in the club, as we've made improvements in our information systems, communications and social media, employment practices, partnerships with other regional organizations, and the legal and accounting services that support our work. I think the RMC's ability to adapt and evolve has let us continue to succeed. After 111 years we still have the energetic culture of a community volunteer group, but in many respects we're now a relatively mature non-profit organization. I think the RMC can and should be both of these things, and as I step down from the board I know I'll find ways to help it continue. Hope you'll find your own ways to do the same. Thanks as always for your support, and I'll see you soon in Randolph.

Jamie Maddock, President

Jamie Maddock

Top: Jamie, far afield from Randolph. Courtesy photo.

Summer Events

by Franklin Stone Wenk and Bev Jadis, Events co-chairs

We can look forward to gathering at RMC events again this summer! In 2021, some of our usual indoor-outdoor events like the Tea and the dinner at Libby's will be held outdoors, and our larger, more crowded events like the Picnic and Charades and the Square Dance *might not be held this year. Watch the RMC website and the *Randolph Weekly* for updates in July about the August events, and the location of the Tea.

Fourth of July Tea: Sunday, July 4th, 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Gourmet Hike: first week of August

Dinner at Libby's: Date to be determined

***Picnic & Charades:** Saturday, August 21st, 12:00 noon

***Square Dance:** Saturday, August 21st, 7:00 PM



Dinner in the tent at Libby's; 2019 Franklin Wenk photo.

Lead an RMC Trip this Summer!

by Mary Minifie, Trips chair

After a year off in 2020, RMC trips are back and are a great way to get out on the trails and catch up with other members. If you would like to lead a trip this year, please see me at the 4th of July Tea or contact me by e-mail.

Trips can take place every Tuesday and Thursday during July and August. We'll publicize your trip through the RMC website and the *Randolph Weekly*, sharing information you've provided on the trail mileage, the vertical ascent to the summit or other destination, and when and where to meet on that day.

For more info, or volunteer to lead: mary.minifie@gmail.com

Annual Meeting notice

by Randy Meiklejohn, Secretary

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Randolph Mountain Club will be held on Saturday, August 14th at 7:00 PM. Watch the RMC website and the *Randolph Weekly* for updates about whether it's in-person or on Zoom. Following a business meeting for officer and committee reports, and for election of new directors and a president, there will be a presentation by a guest speaker.

Volunteer Work Trips for summer 2021

by Wendy Walsh

Danielle Normand blazing (L) and Renee Dunham brushing (R) on the Crescent Ridge Trail; Chris Campbell, Austin Blake and Jeff Wilson brushing on the Howker Ridge. Bob Drescher photos.

Have you been missing RMC social interaction? Want to give back to the RMC in these difficult times, with our camps still closed due to Covid? Come volunteer on our trails and have some fun. Volunteers play a major role in the maintenance of our trails. This year we will be offering both shorter work trips from 9:00 AM 'til noon as well as our regular work trips on some Saturdays and Wednesdays in June, July and August. Think trail work is not for you? Come out and check it out... clipping branches, keeping trails clear, blazing trees. First-time volunteers welcome.

This season the morning trips may include easily-reached trails such as the Sylvan Way, lower sections of The Link, and the Brookbank. All-day trips may include the Amphibrach, Spur Trail, middle sections of The Link, and Four Soldiers and Underhill Paths.

Please check out the RMC website and Facebook page for the schedule. All trips start at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. FMI contact Wendy Walsh (603) 401-7899, wendy.walsh@unh.edu.



Trails Report and Meet the Trail Crew

by Bob Drescher, Trails chair



Sam Marshall
Manchester, New Hampshire
Field Supervisor

Heading into the 2021 season has a more familiar feel to the start of our season, and in hiring more crew members we've expanded from the short crew of four that kept us going last year during the pandemic. This should allow us to get more done in a safe working environment, while we continue to adapt to changing COVID protocols.

Sam Marshall, returning for his fourth season, is our Field Supervisor, and assisting him will be Crew Leader Joey Schilke (3rd year). Rounding out the crew will be Josie Bourne (joining us from the Upper Valley Trail Alliance), Bradley Panto, Emma Brinks and Reuben Morris.

Memorial Day weekend is the start of the crew's orientation, which includes ax training, tool and safety instruction, along with trail work skill sessions. Joining in the training will be club director and trail crew alum Ben Lieberson, Trails Co-chairs Benzo Harris and Bob Drescher, and volunteer Jeff Wilson. Our work this season will involve rock quarrying in the alpine zone that requires specialized rigging, so we'll have a professional instructor to provide this training for the crew and RMC volunteers. After several weeks of patrols to clear blowdowns, we hope to get started on our two-year rehabilitation on sections of the Gulfside Trail, beginning at Thunderstorm Junction. Our plan is use screewalls and new signage to define the treadways and a large enough "junction" area to help them make connections to the multiple trails in this area without impacting the fragile alpine zone around it, similar to the work we did with the White Mountain Trail Collective in 2019 on the Crawford Path near Lakes of the Clouds. Originally planned for summer 2020, this Gulfside work is part of the maintenance responsibility we assumed for the segment of the Appalachian Trail between Edmands Col and Madison Spring Hut when we became a "maintaining club" of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy in 2011. Our other project will be on the Sylvan Way, replacing bog bridges between the Randolph Path junction and Snyder Brook.

We are grateful for the Club's support, along with that of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the NH Bureau of Trails, the US Forest Service, the Randolph Community Forest Commission and the White Mountain Trail Collective, all of whom continue to provide essential funding and training. Major support comes from our volunteers who are the main labor source for our trail maintenance efforts like brushing and blazing, which frees the professional crew up for more intensive and technical work. Volunteer work hours also contribute to the required match on grants, making their contributions doubly important!

Finally, we will have a fall trailcrew this season thanks to a donation in honor of the Toms family, made by members Angela Toms and Chris Forman of Meriden NH. Fall crews allow us to take on additional projects and do more to stabilize and care for our trails, but funding is not always available. In recent years, fall trail work has included several campaigns of clearing historic viewpoints in the Crescent Range, as featured in this newsletter in December 2020. These projects enhance the trail network and all-season recreation close to Randolph, and community support for them is always appreciated.



Joey Schilke
Eatontown, New Jersey
Crew Leader



Josie Bourne
Lebanon, New Hampshire
1st year



Emma Brinks
East Lansing, Michigan
1st year



Reuben Morris
Maplewood, New Jersey
1st year



Bradley Panto
N. Catasauqua, Pennsylvania
1st year

Camps Report

by Carl Herz, Camps chair

Winter at the RMC camps is frequently a solitary work environment, and this year the continued cabin closures amplified that aspect of the job. With this in mind, staff were selected carefully. Returning caretaker James Baum shared the winter with Abigail Lown, who both kept busy and in great spirits throughout season. Their self-sufficiency and communication skills benefited the club enormously. Fortunately, we made it through the winter without a single emergency, illness, or incident. In addition, winter weather was somewhat mild this year, sparing the camps and the nearby trails of typical winter storm damage.

For spring we have been pleased to welcome Ava Jackson and Myles Chouinard, both of Coos County and both experienced and knowledgeable in the White Mountains. Myles will be remaining on the team through summer and will be joined by Andi Smith, who returns in June for her second summer at the camps.

The COVID pandemic continues to impact operations into 2021. Our approach for the camps is to keep Gray Knob and Crag Camp closed to visitors until we can welcome all without restrictions such as masks and social distancing. The camps committee will be meeting frequently to assess the feasibility of opening the cabins, and our goal is to reopen them as soon as it is safe and reasonable to do so. We will continue to shelter hikers at The Perch and the Log Cabin with the same restrictions we had last year.

The ongoing closures have afforded us the opportunity to plan and tackle large projects, the most exciting of which is the new photovoltaic system we will be installing at Gray Knob in the fall. This will replace the aging solar technology we currently use to keep the radio batteries charged. The radios themselves have seen a major upgrade as well, after a grant application by director Chris Hawkins submitted to Coos County Commissioners was approved. The RMC now has six new handheld radios. The larger batteries and modern technology are a vast improvement, and they will be far more reliable in emergencies and routine communications alike.

Gray Knob and Crag Camp have now been closed for over a year. Reflecting on the time gladly spent on the mountain and at the camps, it is not lost on us that for many, visiting the cabins feels like going home. We are hopeful that 2021 is the year that things finally get back to normal at the camps.



Meet the Caretakers

Ava Jackson (above), Andi Smith (below R) and Myles Chouinard (below L). Courtesy photos.

Ava: You can usually find me working for my parents at Saalt Pub & Libby's Bistro in Gorham. When I'm not bartending, I enjoy mountain biking and trail running. I graduated from Bowdoin College last year with a degree in anthropology and art. While caretaking I spent time skiing, hiking and gouache painting.

Myles: I grew up and lived most of my life in the Berlin-Gorham area. This year, I'm caretaking spring and summer. Being in the mountains, especially NH's forests, has resonated tranquility and a sense of decompression. I'm grateful for the opportunity to live in a place with so much beauty and history in conservation. I've been a member of AVSAR since 2012 and excited to help people in the Northern Presidentials more frequently. Some of my favorite things to learn about and participate in are trail running, hiking/backpacking, weightlifting, foraging, fishing and hunting. I'm thrilled to be part of the RMC's rich history and culture.



Andi: I just finished my second year at Emerson College, where I'm studying creative writing and history. This is my second year with the RMC and I'm looking forward to returning to the community this summer!

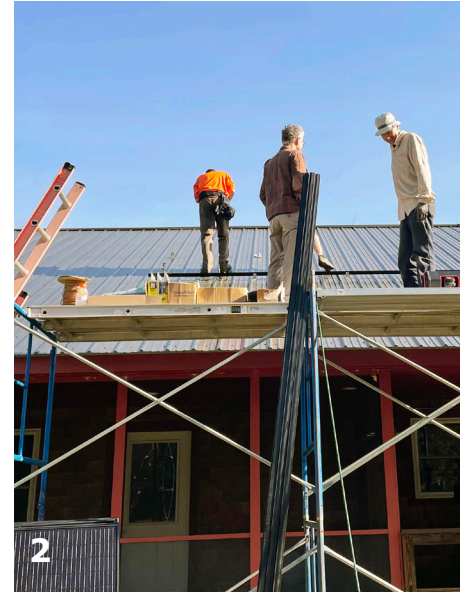
The RMC gratefully acknowledges grants received from the following organizations for its solar projects at Stearns Lodge and Gray Knob:

The Randolph Foundation
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation,
 Tillotson Local Grants Program
Thomas W. Haas Fund,
 a donor-advised fund of the NHC



and donations by many individuals:

- Jim Alexander and Joan Ostergren
- Daniel Altneu
- Bill and Barbara Arnold
- Diana and Ray Aube
- Marty Basch
- John and Mary Berry
- Karen Bradley
- Sally Bruni
- Jim Cedrone
- Julia and David Charles
- Steven and Karen Chase
- Mary Conchelos
- Ray Cooper
- Paul and Michele Cormier
- Ray Cotnoir and Heather Wiley
- Peter Crane
- Richard Day
- Lawrence Dean and Mina Goodrich
- Jennifer and Fred DeMarco
- Elaine Dill and Don Sprowl
- Matt Doubleday
- Bob Drescher
- Alan and Lynn Eusden
- Lynn Farnham
- Peg Fischang
- Shelli Fortin
- Richard Fournier
- Andy and Sarah Gallop
- Larry Garland
- Cath Goodwin
- David Govatski
- Jim Graham
- Doug Grant
- Quentin Greeley
- Joan Hall and Jeffrey Mullin
- Mike Hansen
- Steven Hartman and Wendy Walsh
- Liz and Jerry Hartzell
- Chris Hawkins
- Reed Henderson

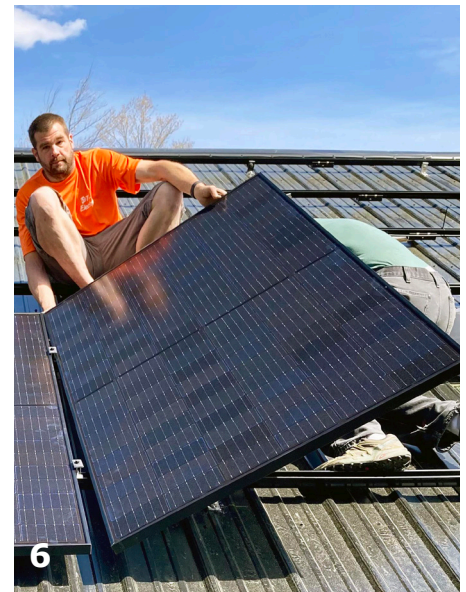
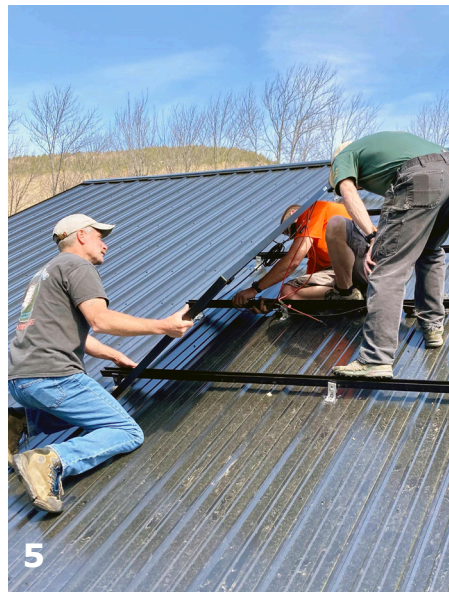


Solar projects, continued from page 1

one that will not need replacing soon; it would be very expensive if we had to remove panels from an old roof, put on a new roof and then reinstall the panels.

The solar design featured 21 panels producing up to 7.14 kilowatts of electricity. This will take care of all of lodge's power needs and also provide power for the heat pump. With net metering we are able to send excess power into the grid and then buy it back at night when we need it. Chris Hawkins played a key role here, lining up our contractor DTL Electric and taking care of all the paperwork required to connect with the grid.

Saturday May 14 was our big work day. Mark Flanagan of DTL and his brother Mike came on Friday and did much of the prep work, wiring and mounting the inverter. The next day Chris, Jeff Wilson, Dave Evankow, Sally Micucci, Dave Salisbury and I all showed up at 8:00 AM to install panels. Mark had the ladders and scaffolding all set up, so some folks started putting the racks on the roof, and others started wiring panels on the ground. Once the panels were wired up and the racks were on we started passing panels up to the installation team. Mark allowed us to do most of the work but kept a careful eye on us and made sure everything was zip-tied correctly and wired up. Chris Hawkins also made a Dunkin run to keep us going on sugar and caffeine.





During the morning Mike's father Joe Micucci and nephew Ari Jackson stopped by to watch and share stories. Mike F. then went down into the basement to start up the inverter, and Chris Hawkins and Sue Maddock fired up the grill for lunch. By the time you read this we should be hooked into the net with our 6.6 kilowatts of RMC power.

Ray Klinger of Alpine Heat Pumps was also there dropping off the equipment, which will go beside the caretaker's quarters on a pedestal. It is very efficient and will really cut down on our use of propane during the winter. For now we are leaving in the gas space heater as a backup, but do not anticipate using it.



1. Roofer Rob Judson and assistant, on the underlayment layer of the new roof.
 2. Mike Flanagan, Paul Cormier and Dave Evankow, as the first racks are laid.
 3. Sally Micucci prepping a solar panel's electrical components on the ground.
 4. The crew has nearly completed laying the racks that support the solar panels.
 5. Jeff Wilson, Mark Flanagan and Jamie Maddock set the first panel in place at the lower left corner of the array.
 6. Mark holds up a panel while Jamie makes wiring connections underneath.
 7. The new Mitsubishi air-source heat pump outside the caretaker's quarters.
 8. Wall-mounted console for heating on the wall of the caretaker's quarters.
- Photos 1-4 Jamie Maddock, 5-6 Sally Micucci, 7-8 Chris Hawkins.



Bruce Hill
 Nancy Hirshberg
 Susan Hirshberg
 Lynda Holich
 Judy and Al Hudson
 Linda Jensen
 Rowan Kamman
 Naomi Kaufman
 Mark and Kathleen Kelley
 Robin Kosstrin
 Mary Krueger
 David Landaeta
 Ben Lieberman
 Gretchen Loeffler
 Margot Maddock
 Jamie and Sue Maddock
 Jeffrey Mantie
 Barbara Marino
 Jon Martinson
 Tim and Sass Mather
 Catherine May and Jeff Maletta
 Doug Mayer
 Donald Mayer
 John and Cathy McDowell
 Marion and Joseph McEttrick
 Paul and Carolyn Meadows
 Randy Meiklejohn and Diane Sokal
 Scott and Ellen Meiklejohn
 Joseph Micucci
 Abbie Micucci
 Iris Micucci
 Tim and Becky More
 Peg Nation
 Adam Nemzer and Vali Tschirgi
 Heather and Gary Newfield
 Bill Parlett and Sarah Clemmitt
 John and Erika Penrose
 Larry Petrillo
 Ben and Barbara Phinney
 David Priestler
 David Raczkowski
 Joan Rising
 Carrie Sandin and Jim Anderson
 Jim and Silvia Shannon
 Richard Silber
 Ryan and Jennifer Smith
 Jim and Dana Snyder-Grant
 Al Sochard and Martha Cummings
 Richard Stainton
 Kim Steward
 Blake and Dell Strayhorn
 Dave and Alison Tomlinson
 Larry Weisberg and Becky Johnson
 Anne Wells
 Howie and Sue Wemyss
 Lionel and Debra Whiston
 Ted and Sandy Wier
 Andy Wiley and Mary Adams
 Tom and Sally Wilkins
 Dave and Dodie Willcox
 Katy Wolff
 Merike Youngs

Wayfinding: Maps of the White Mountains

by Adam Apt

The long-anticipated exhibition “Wayfinding: Maps of the White Mountains” will be opening at the Museum of the White Mountains this June. The region has one of the richest cartographic histories of any mountainous area and in this regard is comparable to only the European Alps. The region’s mapmakers over the last two hundred years have been of all sorts, from local workmen to experts with national and world-ranging perspectives. Moreover, there is a tremendous variety of types of maps. Even visitors familiar with old White Mountain maps will find surprises in this exhibition, among them extremely rare published maps and unique unpublished manuscripts.

The exhibition features maps from the far and recent past, as well as new cartographic aids for today’s hikers, tourists, scientists, weekend explorers, and enthusiasts. Two broad historical themes are illustrated. First, we see the development of surveying and mapping technology from the 18th century to the present, as it has been applied to the White Mountains. Second, we see the changing purposes and uses of maps in this region, as the culture, politics, and the economy have changed over nearly four centuries.

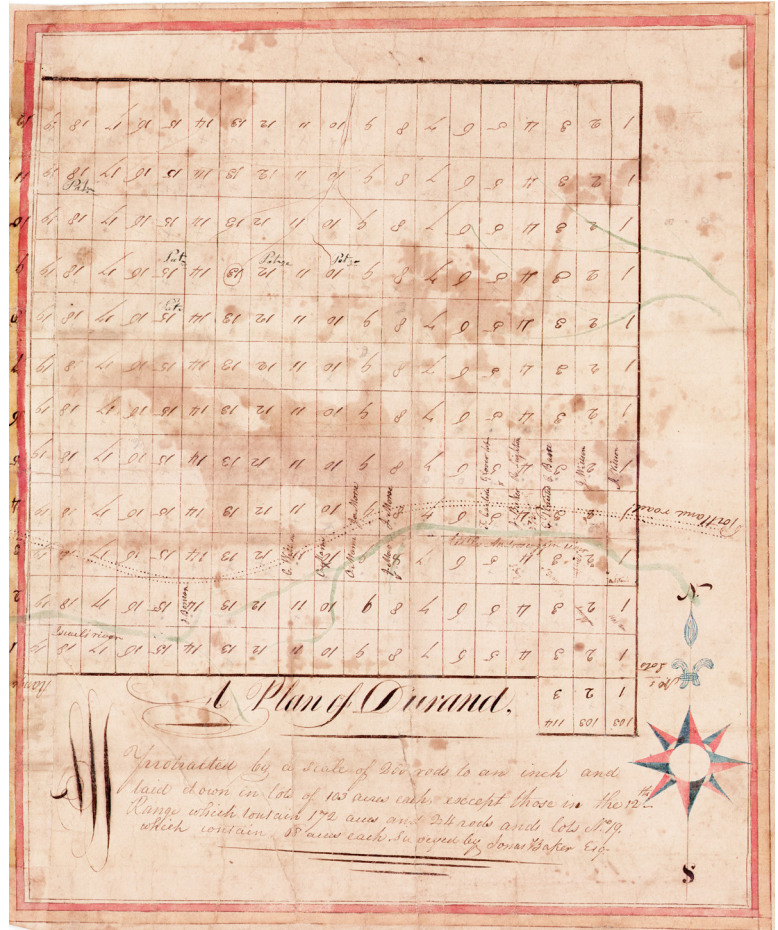
As the story of White Mountain maps progresses, we see the tremendous variety of maps, not just by type of map, but also by the range of aesthetic choices by the mapmakers, even for a given type of map, and even during relatively short periods of time. Each map describes specific places and routes, and also tells a story of the knowledge, curiosity, purposes, pleasures, and design ideas of its time.

In the exhibition, the maps are presented in either original or facsimile form, and include a number of “firsts”:

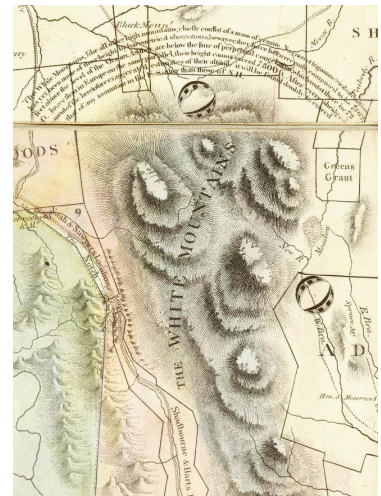
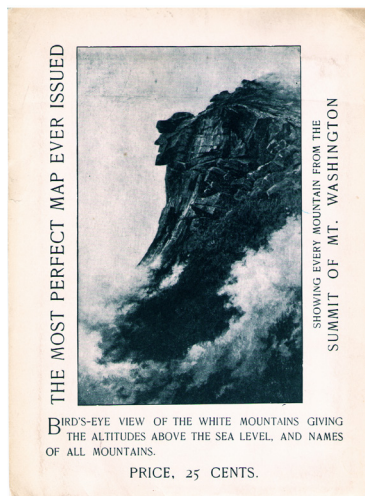
- The first map printed in British North America, which is also the first map to identify the White Mountains
- The earliest surviving sketch map of the White Mts.
- The first map to identify Mount Washington
- The first printed map of the White Mountains
- The first topographic map of the White Mountains
- The first contour map of the White Mountains
- The first hiking maps of the White Mountains

Contributor and RMC member Adam Apt, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, serves on the museum’s Advisory Council, and he has co-curated the Wayfinding exhibition with support from David Govatski. It will be on view from June 4 to September 17, 2021.

The Museum is located in Plymouth NH, on the campus of Plymouth State University, about sixty miles south of Randolph. Information at plymouth.edu/mwm.



Above, a manuscript map of the town of Durand (c. 1820, before its 1824 incorporation as **Randolph**), surveyed by Jonas Baker, Esq. of Lancaster and showing early numbered land plots. Landowner names are inscribed on some plots, including those of J. Bowman along Israel’s River, and O. Mann and R. Leighton along the “Portland Road” to the east, as it follows the Moose River, here indicated as the “Little Androscoggin River”. Below left, the cover of a birds-eye view map of the White Mountains; below right, a detail of the 1816 Carrigain map, showing the Mt. Washington range. Images courtesy of Adam Apt.



BIRD’S-EYE VIEW OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS GIVING THE ALTITUDES ABOVE THE SEA LEVEL, AND NAMES OF ALL MOUNTAINS. PRICE, 25 CENTS.

From the Archives: A Glimpse of a Summer Long Past

by Judy Hudson

The papers of distinguished scholar and botanist Arthur Stanley Pease had been stored in the attic of his Randolph cottage until several years ago, when current owner Charles Corcoran donated them to the RMC Archive. This printed “Program Proposed for 1936” gives a wonderful glimpse into the past. The list must have been distributed to current members, along with President Louis F. Cutter’s annual letter, in anticipation of the upcoming season (perhaps in hopes of enrolling additional participation).

Most of the leaders listed are “summer folk”, families who had built cottages in Randolph. Hersh Cross was 20 years old in 1936 and his brother Ernie, 22; Louis F. Cutter, an amazingly active 72-year-old. Campbell, Gulick, Ogilby, Bridgman, Barrow, Keach—the names bring back memories from my childhood. Year-rounder Jack Boothman (at age 20) joined his good friends Ash Campbell, who was 18, and the Cross brothers. “Mr. Wood” must have been Richard, Frank’s 36-year-old son, and Katherine’s brother, born in 1900. The program brings old stories to mind.

Scar Trail: Cutter and members of the Club were still actively cutting trails; Scar was the most recent one, just completed. The 1936 annual letter reads: “In scouting for the extension [of the Scar Trail] to the Air Line, the true Durand Scar was discovered, still having its ancient sign. What in 1934 we supposed to be Durand Scar was another view point, unknown before the lumbering. The present main trail goes to the foot of the true Scar; then to the beginning of the Watson Path, over the false Scar. . . A loop goes over the true Scar, and two other view points, and joins the main trail a little below the highest view point.”

Work to restore Coösauk Fall: Bumpus Brook after heavy rains originally split so that a portion of its water flowed over this fall, although the main stream ran down along the ridge, dropping steeply over Stairs Fall. In the late nineteenth century William H. Peek “had a dam made

REVISED PROGRAM.

RANDOLPH MOUNTAIN CLUB

Program Proposed for 1936

Not yet approved by the Directors. Subject to modifications.
Revised and Adopted July, 1936.

			Leaders
Saturday	July 4.	Fourth-of-July tea at Mt. Crescent House.	Dr. and Mrs. Pease
Tuesday	7.	Scar Trail	Mrs. Warfield
Thursday	9.	Work to restore Coösauk Fall.	The Messrs. Cross.
Tuesday	14.	Excursion Crescent Ridge Trail.	Mr. A. Campbell.
Thursday	16.	Carter Dome.	The Messrs. Gulick.
Tuesday	21.	Club Rendezvous; also not to forget Dome Rock.	The Messrs. Ogilby.
Thursday	23.	Work in Castle Ravine. (meet at Bowman, 9:00 E.S.T.)	
Tuesday	28.	Gulf of Slides; Appalachian Cascades.	Miss Bridgman
Thursday	30.	Work	
Tuesday	Aug. 4.	Summit of Mt. Mansfield; also not to forget Jefferson Ravine; Cape Rock.	Mr. and Mrs. Webster, and L. F. Cutter
Thursday	6.	Excursion Summits of Mrs. Jackson + Webster	Mr. Gulick
Saturday	8.	Annual Meeting at Ravine House	
Tuesday	11.	Annual Picnic on Coldbrook.	The Messrs. Keach
Thursday	13.	Terrace Mtn.	Mr. Pease
Tuesday	18.	Bumpus Basin	Mr. Barrow
Thursday	20.	North Country	Jack Boothman
Saturday	22.	Lake Country; Red Hill.	Mr. Wood
Tuesday	Sept. 1.	Bald Cap (Sleep over sleep the mountain rose)	L. F. Cutter
Thursday	8.	Crow's Nest, Shelburne ("For us no past")	L. F. Cutter
Thursday	10.	Work	

Bulletins at hotels, Post Office and Tea House will give details. In case of bad weather or other cause, leaders should cancel or postpone their walks, and give notice of such action to hotels and Post Office by eight A. M. Members may leave an excursion at any time by giving notice to leader. Until such notice members should follow leader's directions.

so that all the water should take this course,” as George Sargent recounted at the 1912 dedication of Peek Park. The easy walk to Coösauk Fall became a popular excursion, especially for Ravine House patrons. Hersh and Ernie Cross were tasked with restoring the fall’s splendor by rebuilding the dam. By the twenty-first century, nature has prevailed, returning the water’s flow to its original course and explaining why Coösauk Falls is no longer much of a sight, and why I had never really noticed Stairs Fall as a kid.

North Country: Where do you suppose Jack Boothman was planning to lead people? “North Country” takes in a lot of territory! Perhaps he hadn’t decided by the time the program went to press.

I particularly like the final sentence, instructions to “members leaving an excursion”:

“Until such notice members should follow leader’s directions.”



Logging on the Diagonal, Wood Path

by Bob Drescher and Randy Meiklejohn

If you’re planning a walk on the paths between Durand Road and Randolph Hill Road this season, note that logging work was done recently, along the Diagonal and the Wood Path. The trails are passable and there’s a lot to see. The RMC thanks the landowner, Broad-acres Trust, and their forester, Haven Neal, for using best practices to protect the community’s historic trails. New skid roads were laid out to cross trails at right angles, and a buffer zone (where trees are left standing) was established on the left and right side of each trail. New views to the Presidentials and the Crescent Range have also been opened up.



Left, top: Tape markers at the buffer zone along the Wood Path. Left, bottom: On the Diagonal, at a road crossing. Above: Madison and Adams from the Diagonal. R. Meiklejohn photos.

Treasurer's Report*by Kathleen Kelley*

	Admin.	Dev't.	Camps	Stearns	Trails	Trails Grants	Total	2021 Budget
Revenue								
YTD 04/30/2021:	\$18,108	27,515	0	0	0	1,000	46,623	120,345
Expense								
YTD 04/30/2021:	\$4,857	489	10,359	592	0	0	16,297	146,538
Net:	\$13,251	27,027	(10,359)	(592)	0	1,000	30,326	(26,192)

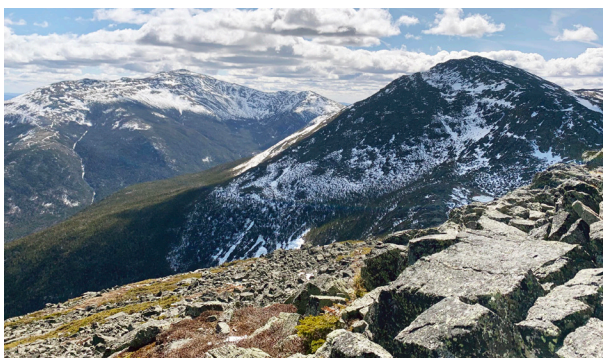
In 2021 the RMC's finances continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, now in its second year. As in 2020 our shelters at Crag Camp and Gray Knob remain closed, and our budgeting for this year had assumed no revenue from overnight fees (which had been over \$58,000 in 2019) while we continue to employ caretakers year-round. However, we have successfully sought state and federal loan/grant support intended to help small businesses and organizations preserve employment, including a second PPP (SBA Paycheck Protection Program) loan of \$18,000.00, and a NH GOFERR (Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery) loan of \$25,900.00, forgiven in January as we expected. We expect the PPP loan to be forgiven also if camps revenue is not received in 2021. Generous donations from members and an operating surplus from 2020 have also helped us to maintain a balanced budget.

Within this framework, the year-to-date expenses and revenues are all coming in as expected and in line with the budget approved by the board in January. Outside the operating budget we have also planned the solar electricity projects at Stearns Lodge and Gray Knob. The response to our fundraising appeal was so strong, from both individuals and grantmaking foundations, that we are able to fund the projects with new special-project donations received in 2020 and 2021, without drawing on the RMC's reserve funds. Look for a full report on these special projects and the rest of 2021 in reports at the Annual Meeting and end of year.

Nowell Ridge, continued from page 1

I slept in, and usually rose to a chilly room and either brilliant bright sunshine or soft gray skies coming through the windows. I ooh-ed and ah-ed over many a multi-colored Quay sunset and hot pink morning skies to the east as I collected my weather data. I switched on NPR as my soundtrack for cooking eggs in bacon grease, boiling water for my coffee rituals. Many days were spent straddling the woodstove, trying to stay warm while keeping my bio-brick burning to a minimum. The winter allowed me the pleasure of reading nineteen books. The gift of reading for fun was the most soul-satisfying part of the season. I dug into classics I hadn't had the chance to read as a youngster. I read new books about anti-racism theory. I read comedy that had me belly laughing alone up on the mountain. On crystal clear, calm sunny days I donned my snowshoes and headed above treeline, eager to take in the beauty of the alpine zone in winter. I ventured over to Madison, explored Star Lake, Edmands Col, and Emerald Bluff overlooking Castle Ravine. I skied snowfields off of Sam Adams peak.

I anticipated occasional visits from immediate family and few local friends, hungry for conversation and the opportunity to share the special-ness of the Randolph beauty with others. My parents huffed up the mountain to remind me of how unique this experience was. They gifted me chocolate, fruit, bacon, a couple beers, and good talks. I hugged them tightly before they disappeared down Hincks, out of sight and leaving me to my own devices. I imagined what it would feel like to welcome guests every weekend. The guests I did see, spending a night at the open-shelter Perch, I greeted with an enthusiasm they may have thought strange. At last! Other humans with whom to celebrate the awe of this stunning place! I answered all their questions and wished they'd had more.



Mt. Washington, Mt. Adams and the Great Gulf; in March 2021, from Mt. Madison. Ava Jackson photo.

On my last full day as a caretaker, I walked to the summit of the Rockpile herself: Washington. I delighted in the melting ice and snow, cruised through Sphinx Col and over Mt. Clay. I held my gratitude for a winter well spent, not for its concrete productivity, rather, for the opportunity to experience the value of being alone with my own thoughts. My own soul. The mountains were my steadfast companion, there for every challenge and joy. I approached the summit of Washington on that bluebird day and felt proud of my own mental resilience. Thank you RMC and all of the Randolphians I got to meet throughout this special season. I think back on my time at Gray Knob and am glad to be warm, dry and in daily contact with people I love, but my solemn winter high up on the mountain will stay in my memory as a peaceful and simple time when I had the gift of living a life focused on weather, natural beauty, and the amazing flavor of bacon on a cold morning. Take care, caretakers!



RMC Merchandise

by Michele Cormier

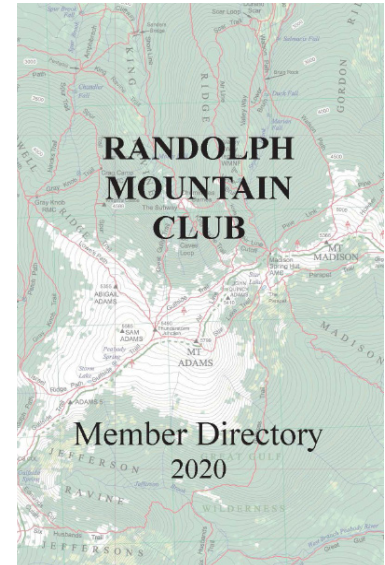
Head to the RMC website year-round for merchandise, paying membership dues, making a donation, or setting up an automatic payment plan for dues or donations.

www.randolphmountainclub.org

Featured on this page: Our zip fleece vest, with the RMC logo patch (available on the website) and the 2020 Directory.

The directory is available in print only, to members only and not via the website.

To purchase, contact Michele Cormier directly at (603) 466-5841 or pcormier@ne.rr.com.



Sarah Alexander, Shoreview MN
Will Arling, Windham NH
David Berliner, Somerville MA
Jared Bierbaum, Bloomington IL
Karen Bradley, Randolph NH
Anne Wenk and Jack Cashion,
 Brooklyn NY
Eric Cox, Centreville VA
Liz Crutcher, Marlborough CT
Josh Davis, Kittery ME
Hannah DeMarco, N. Attleboro MA
Tristan Donovan, Dover NH
Suzanne Eusden, Whittier AK
Carol Felice, Madison NH

Welcome new RMC members!

Joined November 2020 - May 2021

John Gardner, Gloucester MA
Cath Goodwin, N. Conway NH
Jim Graham, Concord NH
Emily Griffin, Gorham NH
Melissa and Aaron Hohos,
 Lakeville MA
Michael Lutjen, Jackson NH
Nicole Mann, Boston MA
Isobel Micucci, Randolph NH
Sean Mitchell, Concord NH
Gregory Naigles, Concord NH

Don Panto, Catasaugua PA
RJ and Wendy Phipps, Beverly MA
John Purcell, Medford MA
Julee Sanderson, Kensington NH
Kyle Sandler, Bristol NH
G. Scholz, Farmington CT
Michael Scire, Woburn MA
Dolores Soule, Topsham ME
Gregor Stocks, Jefferson NH
Jeff Stone, Milton MA
William Tinkler, Londonderry NH
Merike Youngs, Laconia NH
Charles Ziakas, Manchester NH
Susan Zielinski, Concord NH

RMC 100 Finisher

latest in a series...



Chris Cameron of Hudson, New Hampshire completed the RMC 100 on April 29, 2021. He started in 2015, and he's seen above on the Castle Trail in August 2017. Courtesy photo.

Alumni, continued from page 12

We envision a specific mission for the Alumni Association, namely, to maintain and strengthen lifelong bonds among current and past RMC trail crew and caretakers by creating opportunities for meaningful engagement that increase awareness, pride, participation, and philanthropic support of the club.

These goals include the direct participation of Alumni in Club activities through volunteer trail work parties, tool acquisition drives, and general support to current camps and trails workers; it also includes finding ways for Alumni to use their various skills to advance the mission of the Club itself, and to support the Club generally.

The goals also include (perhaps first and foremost) finding who we are. Addresses, emails, and phone numbers in our contact list of former employees are still very sparse – not only for years long past but for quite recent years as well. We're confident that many of the holes can be patched simply by asking, and our first public action as the RMC Alumni Association is to ask readers of the newsletter to look at the Alumni list posted on the Club's website. Please take a look and tell us if you know the location of missing people or have corrections or additions. Watch for other Alumni activities as we all climb out from under that rock that has been COVID-19, and return to the trails. Contact us at randolphmountainclubalumni@gmail.com.

<http://www.randolphmountainclub.org/alumni/>



New RMC Alumni Association

by Tad Pfeffer

It should be obvious, after only a moment's thought, that a great many people have passed through the RMC's Camp Caretakers and Trail Crews over the one hundred eleven years since the Club's founding. It was not until the RMC's Centennial in 2010, however, that we started to appreciate not only how many of us there have been, but also how many have vanished – some to posterity, but others simply to a new and unknown address.

Alumni association leaders, from left: Jenny Baxter, Doug Mayer, Sarah Allen, Tad Pfeffer, and Deva Stekettee.

After the Centennial event, a small group of RMC people started gathering updated bios and contact information on alumni employees, to share this information on the RMC website (see link at end of this article). We were struck by the variety of experience and expertise of those individuals we have been able to trace. A combination of fascination with the historical depth of the Club, regard for its history, and awareness of the challenges of the changing mountain world the Club inhabits has motivated us now to formally establish an RMC Alumni Association.

Continued on page 11