

Fall / Winter 2012



Voice of the Wapack

Published by the Friends of the Wapack, Inc.

Issue #90

From the President

A milestone in our long range plans for the Wapack Trail was reached this summer with the dedication of the parking lot on Old Mountain Road in Greenfield, at the northern end of the trail. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who manage the Wapack National Wildlife Refuge, constructed a splendid off road parking lot. Now there are parking facilities at both ends of the trail and at strategic locations for the main trail and some side trails. Providing additional trail head parking is still a goal.

This summer a timbering operation in New Ipswich, south of Binney Hill Road, necessitated the temporary relocation of a portion of the trail. This is now complete and the trail reopened, but hikers are cautioned when traversing the disturbed area. The landowner gra-



Ledge formation on Mt. Watatic South Peak.

Photo by Mena Schmid.

ciously allowed the reopening of the trail for the Wapack end-to-end-end race day, much appreciated by the participants.

In 2007 the New England Forestry Foundation, owners of the Lincoln-Davis Forest on Temple Mountain, did a sustainable timber harvest, including a portion of the Berry Pasture Trail. It opened up scenic views to the west and revitalized the area where blueberries were commercially grown in the 1940 and

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Courtesy on the trail

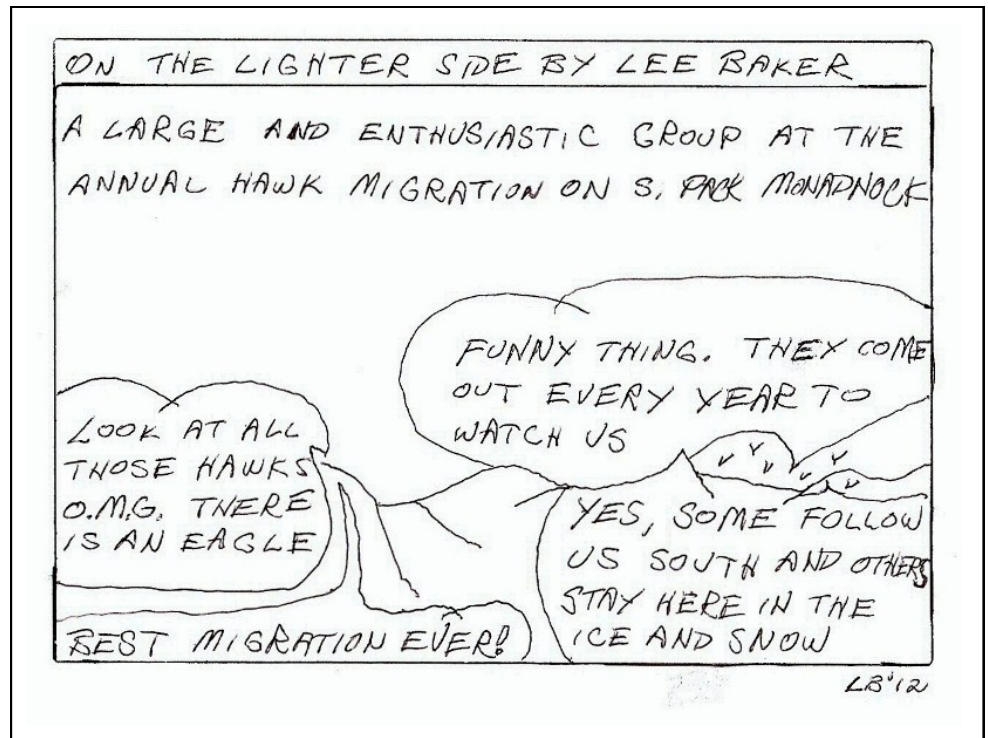
- *Foot travel welcome.*
- *Leave NO trace.*
- *Be quiet near houses.*
- *Stay on blazed trails.*
- *Respect trailside property.*
- *Park cars so others can pass.*

From the President

(Continued from page 1)

50's. The trail has again becoming overgrown and the Board of Directors agreed that this area should be cut back to allow the berries to grow and the scenic view preserved. We had prepared a grant application for Recreational Trails Funding, but had recently learned that we were not chosen. However, we will continue to search for funding, while covering this year's view clearing expenses from our general budget, with the intent to develop a sustaining fund for view clearing opportunities to be used in the future when, every five or six years, we will want to again clear the area.

- Mitch Call, President



Friends of the Wapack

The *Voice of the Wapack* is published twice a year by the Friends of the Wapack. The Friends are nonprofit volunteers dedicated to the maintenance and preservation of the Wapack Trail System. Financial support is provided by member

donations which are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The Wapack Trail is a 21-mile skyline footpath from Mt. Watatic in Ashburnham, MA to North Pack in Greenfield, NH. Completed in 1923, it is the oldest interstate hiking trail in the Northeast.

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Friends of the Wapack

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Website: <http://www.wapack.org>



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Web Master/Newsletter: Rick Blanchette (603) 878-1464

Trail Work Days 2012

Report on our April 28 work-day:

The first workday of 2012 was at the new parking lot at the Wapack National Wildlife Refuge. We constructed a new trail linking the parking lot to the existing trail.

We had a good turnout with twelve people showing up. With

just about perfect weather we quickly had the trail cleared and blazed. We continued with some additional work on the Wapack trail before calling it a day. Overall, a very productive workday. Thanks to all that attended.

Upcoming Workdays:

Saturday September 22, 2012– Binney Pond and Beyond

The second workday will be along the section from Binney Hill Road to Pratt Mtn. and beyond. We'll meet at the NeWest Mall parking lot,



Thanks to all who participated in our April 28 workday at the Wapack National Wildlife Refuge / North Pack!

Route 123/124 in New Ipswich, at 8:30 AM before heading over to the trailhead. We'll be hauling in supplies for some bog bridges, cleaning up some ice storm damage and doing general trail work on the section between Binney Hill Road and Pratt Mtn.

Saturday October 27, 2012– State Line Trail and Mt. Watatic

The final workday will be drainage work and other maintenance on the State Line Trail which runs from the MA/NH state line to the Blue Dot Trail and on Mt. Watatic which has seen a tremendous increase in use. We'll meet at the Route 119 parking lot in Ashburnham, MA at 8:30. Check our website www.wapack.org for any last minute changes. Hope to see you there.

- Mike Przybyla, Trail Master

Notices

A reminder about Winter use of the Wapack Trail through Windblown Cross-Country Ski Area

1. With snow on the ground everyone using the Wapack Trail through Windblown property needs to pay for a trail ticket.
2. Everyone must use skis or snowshoes, no hiking.
3. In winter with a trail ticket you can use the Windblown parking lot during the day, not overnight.
4. Dogs are not permitted.
5. Check the Windblown website to see if they are open or stop into the ski shop between 9 and 5. If not open no trail fee.
6. Snowshoers need to stay out of the ski tracks.
7. People coming from south to north and not leaving a car in our lot can pay on their way out.

Thank you!

Friends of the Wapack 2012 Calendar

All are welcome to attend the following meetings & events
Check our website for updates and additions www.wapack.org

Board Meetings - First Thursday of alternate months. (November 1, January 3, March 7). All are welcome. Ashby Public Library, Ashby, MA. or Shieling Forest Barn, Peterborough, NH. 7:00 PM. Check with a board member for location.

Saturday, September 22 - Trail Workday - Binney Pond and Beyond, New Ipswich, NH

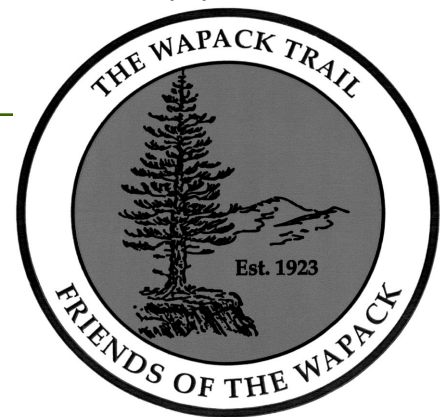
See the 2012 Trail Work Days article in this issue for details. Contact Mike (603) 878-3350.

Saturday, October 20 - FRIENDS OF THE WAPACK ANNUAL MEETING, Town Meeting House, Sharon, NH

Our featured speaker is Peter J. Thompson, Affiliate Professor of Geology at UNH. He will be discussing the geology of the area and will join us for the morning hike at Mount Watatic, where he will describe the geology of the mountain. See the special mailing included with this newsletter for details or check our website, www.wapack.org.

Saturday, October 27 - State Line Trail and Mt. Watatic, Ashburnham, MA

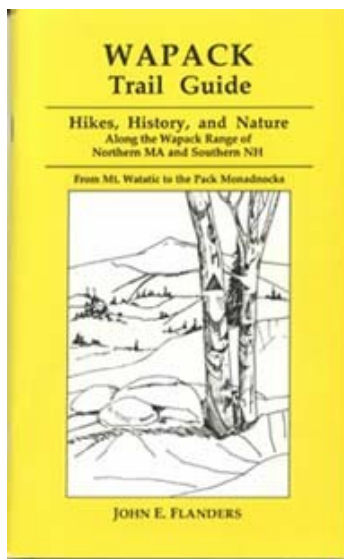
See the 2012 Trail Work Days article in this issue for details. Contact Mike Przybyla for details (603) 878-3350. Check our website for updates www.wapack.org.



Friends of the Wapack
Patch / Sticker



Friends of the Wapack General Store



You can now order these items on our website with Paypal at www.wapack.org !

Send me ____ Friends cap(s) @ \$17.50 ea.

Send me ____ Trail Guide & map pkg.(s) @ \$11.00 ea.

Send me ____ Friends patch(es) @ \$4.00 ea.

Send me ____ Friends sticker(s) @ \$1.00 ea.

Prices include postage and handling.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Make check to: **Friends of the Wapack • P.O. Box 115 • W. Peterborough, NH 03468**

More Notices

Board members & trail adopters wanted - Interested in participating on the Friends of the Wapack Board of Directors? If so please contact Mitch Call at (603) 924-7544. For trail adoption please contact Rick Blanchette at (603) 878-1464. Join others like you who love the Wapack Trail by volunteering your time as an FOW board member or trail section adopter. Thank you!

Voice of the Wapack newsletter on line - If you would rather read this newsletter on line, send an email to info@wapack.org and let us know. Rather than receiving the paper newsletter you will get an email notification when newsletters are posted on our website www.wapack.org. ***If your email address has changed please send us a note from your new address to info@wapack.org***

March 1, 2012 - EDITORIAL DEADLINE for Voice of the Wapack Issue #91. Send your letter, article, photo or artwork to Rick Blanchette, P.O. Box 90, New Ipswich, NH 03071, or email to rick-blanchette@yahoo.com. We reserve the right to edit for content and length.

Thanks to our Section Captains and Trail Crew!

The Wapack Trail would only be an idea without the dedicated work of our Section Captain trail adopters and the many other volunteers who have participated in our work days over the years. It takes countless hours of volunteer labor to keep the trail maintained and open. So to all of you who have worked on the Wapack and the side trails we maintain, THANK YOU!

These are the Friends of the Wapack Section Captains who have done so much great work on the trails this year: Dave Buren, Glenn Lloyd, Nance Hall (welcome Nance!), Bob Saari, John Hills, Tom Brumaghim, Sean McInerney and the New Ipswich Boy Scouts, Don & Lois Ray, Ollie Mutch, Norm Sheppard, Rick Blanchette, John Varney and the Ashby Boy Scouts, Mike Przybyla, Steve Dyke (welcome Steve!), Sherisa Sterling, Neil Faiman, Lynne Pentler, and Jennifer Shultis. Thanks folks!

There is a possibility of one or two sections becoming available for adoption soon. If you are interested in adopting a trail section please contact Rick Blanchette at (603) 878-1464 or send an email to info@wapack.org for details. - Rick Blanchette, Trails Committee Chairman



Thanks to Section Captain Bob Saari for building these wonderful stone steps to protect a steep and eroding section of the Wapack Trail in Miller State Park / Pack Monadnock. Excellent work Bob!!

Friends of the Wapack
P.O. Box 115
West Peterborough, NH 03468
Email: info@wapack.org



We're on the web!

<http://www.wapack.org>



Once It's Gone,
It's Gone
Forever

Welcome New Friends

France Menk, Walpole NH

David Woodford, Leominster
MA

Elizabeth Hinkelman, Westford
MA

Gary Scholl, Temple NH

Susan L Ramsdell, Amesbury
MA

Janis & John King, Antrim NH

Tammi Squires, Keene NH

Michael Rowland, Jaffrey NH

Brian Kendall, Goffstown NH

Rebecca Dam, Temple NH

Mike Poreba, Peterborough NH

Maude Salinger, Peterborough
NH

Mike Funner, Weare NH

Tyrel Souza, Keene NH

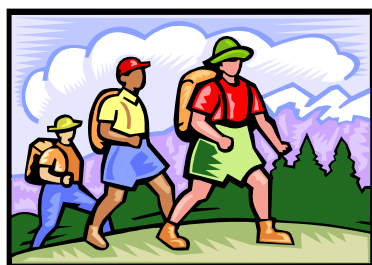
Sarah Tuccelli, Rindge NH

James Thompson, Bennington NH

Daveen Uaga, Antrim NH

Jen Springla, Ashburnham MA

Tom Hill, Shirley MA



EMS Club Days Oct. 5 & 6! As a member of the Friends of the Wapack you are eligible for special discounts at EMS during their Club Days. Simply present your membership card or this newsletter as proof of membership to receive your discount at an EMS store during EMS Club Days! Check with your local EMS store or www.ems.com for details.

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