

Fall 2016 Newsletter

Learn About Some of the 2016 Programs Funded by the API With Your Kind Support



The 2016 Leadership Gala was held September 16th at the Adirondack Hotel in Long Lake. This is the annual major fundraising event for the API. The sixty-five people that attended were treated to guest appearances by Teddy Roosevelt and John Muir impersonators. Long time environmental and community leader, Joe Martens, was awarded the 2016 Frank M. Hutchins Leadership Award for his contributions to furthering public access to public lands and environmental education in the Adirondacks. A Hornbeck boat, generously donated by Pete Hornbeck, was won by Adirondack enthusiast John Claude of New York City. Assemblyman Dan Stec and Town of Newcomb Supervisor Wes Miga served as Gala Co-Chairs. The Gala Special Guest was SUNY ESF President, Quentin Wheeler.



Pictured clockwise from above, Joe Martens; Bryton Chikukwa visits with SUNY ESF President Quentin Wheeler; Teddy Roosevelt and John Muir with Sue and Sterling Goodspeed; Liz Thorndike presents award to Joe Martens with Bob Lilly; President Roosevelt with API President Bob Lilly; the Gala gathering; and Honorary Co-Chair Assemblyman Dan Stec with Joe and Kathleen Martens and Mike and Susan German. (Photos by Frank Pine)

2016 Artist-in-Residence

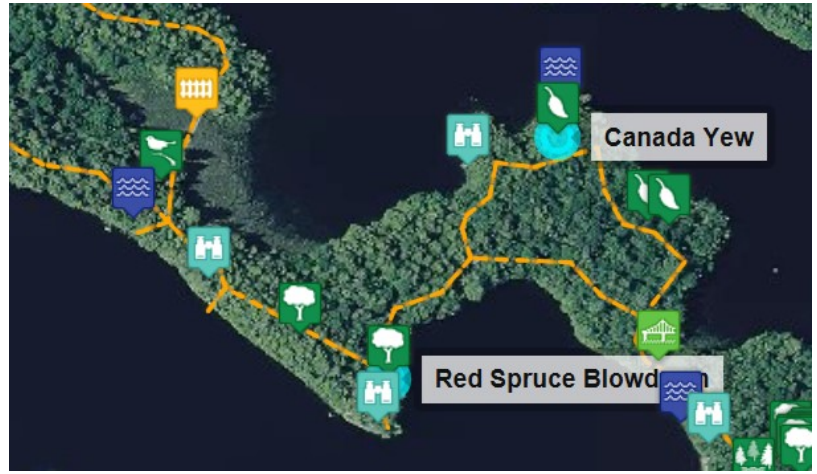
The API was pleased to fund the 2016 Artist-in-Residence, George Bumann of Gardner Wyoming. George, a SUNY ESF graduate, is a wildlife sculptor. He was welcomed with a "meet-the-artist reception" on June 30th, which was hosted by the API and attended by more than 50 people. George offered several public workshops while in residence and completed many works in clay, watercolor and acrylic. His Doe and Fawn sculpture is currently on display in the AIC lobby display case.

Pictured at right, George and friends enjoy a guide boat ride on Rich Lake in Newcomb. The guide boat interpretation program at the Interpretive Center is funded in part by the API. (Photo by SUNY ESF)



Digital Naturalist Project

The digital naturalist project on the AIC trails is working to demonstrate an innovative integration of nature and technology. A mobile app which uses smart phones or a table computer, marks sightings along the trail system. Once uploaded and identified, the sightings are instantly available on an associated web page linked to the AIC, allowing guests to enjoy the trails remotely, and to use the web map to guide their exploration of the trails when on site. Future versions will allow guests to add their own sightings and favorite nature experiences to an ever increasing library of first-person sightings, photos, and memories. Trail map pictured at right by SUNY ESF.



2016 Huntington Lecture Series

The Adirondack Park Institute was proud to sponsor lectures at the Interpretive Center in Newcomb which included the following presentations which were free and open to the public:

Ravens and Wolves: The Intelligence of Animals, **George Bumann**, Sculptor and Naturalist;

30 Years of Atmospheric Monitoring on the Huntington Forest, **Patrick McHale**, Biogeochemist, SUNY ESF;

Monitoring Tick-borne Diseases in the North Country, **Dr. LeeAnn Sporn**, Professor, Paul Smith's College;

Collis P. Huntington and His Relationship with William West Durant: Benefactor or Schemer?, **Shelia Myers**, Associate Professor, Cayuga Community College;

New York Bats: Natural History and Current Status, **Carl Herzog**, Endangered Species Biologist, NYS DEC; and,

Our Magnificent Milky Way Galaxy, **Bob Fisher**, Amateur Astronomer and Photographer.



Rich Lake Outlook on the trails of SUNY ESF's Adirondack Interpretive Center. Photo by SUNY ESF.

Small Grants Program

In 2015, the API established a Small Grants Program offering small grants to school groups and organizations to have the opportunity to visit the Adirondacks. These grants often make the difference in whether a group or organization can come to the Adirondacks. Funds have been provided to organizations trying to help young people by teaching them about the natural world in the Adirondacks. Groups from Rochester, Utica, and Albany have taken advantage of the program. Other grants have helped an Adirondack organization with funds toward the purchase of a bus used to transport young people to summer programs, and supported a philosophy workshop held at the Newcomb Interpretive Center.

Informal Science Education Interpretive Intern

The API was pleased to again fund the summer naturalist program at the Adirondack Interpretive Center (AIC). Samantha McVey, an environmental studies student at SUNY ESF, spent the summer at the AIC to gain an understanding and experience in environmental education and interpretation. In addition to helping manage the AIC, Samantha led the weekly outreach program with the Newcomb Youth Program's summer day camp. The program brought 10-12 campers to the AIC each week where Samantha introduced them to natural history and ecology, leading campers through hands-on activities in the building and on the trails. Pictured above, Samantha leads a program on the trail with the youth program. Photo by SUNY ESF



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Become an API Member!



Your generous memberships and donations allow us to fund these and other enriching educational programs in the Adirondacks. Please consider becoming a member and donating today. For more information on how to do this, go to our webpage at adkinstitute.org/Membership. **Remember, your donation is tax deductible!**