

# THE RESUSCITATOR

## Fallfest 2009 Edition

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*

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Where it all started. Madison No. 1 in the late nineteenth century.

ONE of the advantages to going digital with the *Resuscitator* is that we can deliver more news, faster, for less money. Hand in hand with digital delivery of the dear old rag, now seventy-six years old, we have also made our website more user-friendly and timely. Check out [ohcroo.com](http://ohcroo.com) today.

So here it is, our first all-digital *Resuscitator*, bringing you news of our Fallfest reunion at the Highland Center. We wanted to get this information to you now because the Highland Center has limited-to-zero capacity to accept walk-ins for this event, depending upon how many sign up in advance. Last year we turned people away at the door. Plan accordingly. Deadline for room resis is October 6. Deadline for meals is October 26. Lock in now or run the risk of missing the festivities.

Now onto the program: Eric Pederson has distinguished himself as a darn good huts manager as well a spokesman for the huts today. He will regale us after dinner with “The Huts: Then and Now.” You’ll hear life in today’s huts, while from the floor, past huts manager luminaries will offer nuggets from their years at the helm. Eric has proven himself a real stand-up guy by surviving several Steering Committee meetings, but we can’t speak for the utterances of other, older huts managers whose recollections only seem to improve with each telling, even while their veracity

may vacillate.

Another cant-miss-it bit of entertainment during Fallfest will be the showing of The Huts 100th Anniversary video Doug Hotchkiss found in his personal collection. OH Dave Huntley located the master video at his old company and offered his expertise in the reformatting and repackaging of this fine huts’ history into a nifty new DVD. Included along with the original 1988 production will be never-before-seen footage filmed at the gala event under the tent when the slide show was first shown, emceed by Fred Stott and Barbara Wagner. Thanks to Dave’s pro bono contributions twenty-one years ago, Dawson Winch’s gathering the slides and pictures from OH and the AMC archives, Mark Hitchcock’s organizing the extensive slide collection, and the stellar delivery of Fred and

Barbara, you can relive this wonderful event, when many of us had thicker hair and thinner waists. During socializing, the show will be viewed at your leisure as it plays on laptops around Thayer Hall. And you can buy your very own copy that night.

Willy Ashbrook, hailing from Keller, Texas, has become chairman of the Spirit of Madison Rebuild campaign and will brief us on the good news about the complete re-construction of the new Madison—bigger, better, Madder than ever hut, the flagship of the uphill Alpine huts (sorry Lakers)—on schedule to be rebuilt fall of 2010 and opened for the 2011 season.

We’ll honor the Latchstring award winners from Lonesome and offer hugs to Gerry Whiting, our man in Maine who will be stepping down from his AMC Maine Woods responsibilities to whittle, dub around in his Yarmouth woodlot, and reflect on a job well done extending the AMC’s conservation, year ‘round recreation, and lodge facilities in the 100-Mile Wilderness.

We’ll also have the short and sweet business meeting presided over by Moose Meserve. This will probably come as no secret, but we are no different than any other organization trying to get through a recession that has left our members’ wallets and piggy banks thinner and emptier than they were this time last year. Luckily, we have a low overhead and immediately put a lid on our spending. Yes, we

have fixed Cabin expenses we have to meet, but other budget-busting items can be creatively deferred or reduced, at least temporarily. The take-home point here is that we're doing all we can to run your OH and manage your cabin with reduced resources, and we can use every dues payment and little extra donation you care to kick in this time around.

Which takes us right back to the digital newsletter and our website. These are incredible communication tools at your finger tips, sitting right there on your desk, or laptop, or i-Phone. A handful of you responded to our news that we were going digital by asking that we continue to mail printed copies, and we will honor your requests, particularly those of you who just haven't gotten into these darn computer contraptions and never will, period. But we were more than a little surprised that a few of you who a) own computers and b) presumably own an inkjet printer still want us to print out a copy, put it in an envelope, lick the stamps and take your personal paper copy to the post office—which is of course something you can do yourself, something that saves you from having to wait for the mail, and saves the OH beaucoup bucks. Our paper copies will be printed at a copy center in black and white on 8 1/2 x 11 individual sheets and then hand inserted and mailed. Your paper copies can be printed at home, instantaneously, in color. Why not help us do this the easy way?

Our website, ohcroc.com is packed with information and it's all there just behind that glass screen most of you are staring at right now. Thanks to our webmaster Tom Kelleher, who has labored for years over this site using computer skills even thirteen-year-old hackers can't decipher, you can now browse for hours by simply clicking on text under the pictures, or go into more depth by clicking on the titles running down the right side of the home page. Want to know what's going on? Click Events & Calendar. Want to look up who worked at a specific hut and what year? Click on Hut Crews. Looking for an alphabetical listing of all known OH, where they worked, and e-mails (provided they want them published)? Click on Crew Database. Will the Cabin will be occupied by Boy Scout Troop No. 40 next weekend? Click on Cabin Schedule. Latchstring Awards? Click on Latchstring Awards. You get the picture. Past *Resuscitators*? Tom has converted twenty-one years of them to PDF files so you can read every page and print out whatever interests you.

In the coming months, look for another *Resuscitator* featuring Peggy Dillon's ghost stories, plus Gormings and obituaries. That will make five *Resuscitators* published this year—the spring edition, the Special Maine Edition, the Special Lakes Edition, this Fallfest edition, and the issue to come. And they are all posted on the website.

Meanwhile, see you at Oktoberfest or Fallfest,

Stroker and Jim Hamilton

## OH Fallfest & Annual Meeting November 7-8, 2009 Happy Hour 4:30

Since the AMC Highland Center in Crawford Notch was so well received, the OH association is pleased to be returning there again this year. We recommend that you make a whole weekend out of it. There will be a number of special events and hikes planned for all ages. You will also have plenty of time to reminisce with your OH friends. There will be a buffet lunch served on Saturday, which, if you prefer, you can take as a trail lunch. Our Happy Hour is Saturday evening followed by a fantastic feast provided by the Highland Center. A full schedule of events will be provided at a later date. The Highland Center will also be running a full slate of guided outdoor programs throughout the weekend. Outdoor gear and clothing is available for overnight guests use (no additional charge) at the Highland Center's LL Bean Gear Room.

If you plan on staying overnight, please select from one of the lodging packages listed below. If you are coming for the event only, please select one of the meal options listed below and call in to make reservations. Please note that the Highland Center has limited capacity for the number of walk-ins that can be accommodated. Failure to register for meals in advance may mean that you will not be able to join the festivities, so please make sure you call at least one month in advance! Advanced reservations will also receive a discounted rate on lodging and meals.

### *Overnight Lodging Packages - Saturday, November 7, 2009*

Prices include all taxes and a gratuity.

1. Bunk Rooms \$84.93/person/night
2. Private Rooms \$127.44/person/night
3. Child Lodging \$55.94/child (12 and under, either room type)

ALL lodging packages include Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, overnight lodging, and Sunday breakfast.

Friday night lodging is optional at a rate of \$62.13/person/night for bunks and \$104.64/person/night for private rooms. Child lodging (either room type) for Friday night is \$34.88/child/night.

Friday lodging includes dinner as well as Saturday breakfast.

### *Meals Only - Saturday, November 7, 2009*

Prices include all taxes and a gratuity.

1. Lunch Only \$18.96/person (lunch-only price applicable for adults and children)
2. Dinner Only \$27.82/person
3. Lunch AND Dinner \$46.78/person
4. Child Dinner Only \$15.17/child (12 and under)

5. Child Lunch AND Dinner \$34.14/child (12 and under)

*Dinner Walk-Ins*

Please note that walk-in dinners will be accommodated if possible, but are not guaranteed (see above). The price for walk-in dinners is \$32.87/adult and \$18.96/child. Prices include all taxes and a gratuity.

*To Make Reservations:*

1. Call the AMC Reservations Line at 603-466-2727 (Mon-Sat, 9 am to 5 pm).

2. Tell the Customer Service staff member that you are with the OH Reunion taking place at the Highland Center on the weekend of November 6-8. Group reservation is #120726.

3. Chose from the lodging or meals-only packages above.

4. Payment is due at the time of your call (by credit card) or within one week by check.

5. Space will be held in this reservation and package pricing will remain effective until Oct. 6, 2009. After that date, bunk and private room reservations will be taken on a first-come basis at the applicable seasonal rate. Please call by Oct 6th for guaranteed space and discounted package prices.

6. Normal AMC cancellation policy applies. Reservations cancelled 30 days prior to arrival date receive a full refund. 14-30 days receive a 70% refund. Cancellations made within 14 days of your arrival date are nonrefundable.

*Questions & Information:*

Brant McAleer-AMC Group Sales Manager  
603-278-3812

[bmcaleer@outdoors.org](mailto:bmcaleer@outdoors.org)

or

John Darak- AMC Group Sales Manager

603-278-3813

[jdarak@outdoors.org](mailto:jdarak@outdoors.org)

**Note: special women's-only evening for those OH wanting to arrive on Friday, November 6.**

**Make sure you make resi before the October 6 deadline.**

**Contact Dawson Winch at [dwinch1215@comcast.net](mailto:dwinch1215@comcast.net) for details.**

## Latchstring Award goes to Lonesome



Lonesome croo accepting their award from Doug Hotchkiss

Dick Low, Bill Barrett, Ned Baldwin, Jed Davis, and Doug Hotchkiss met on August 17 to determine the award recipient for this summer. After reviewing hundreds of comment cards and input from all of you that visited huts, they chose the Lonesome Croo from a large group of great croos. As always it was hard to single out one group, but they felt that the team work this croo showed the entire summer was second to none.

On August 20 the award was presented at the OH Cabin in front of all the summer crew members. As you can see, they were ecstatic and got a standing ovation from their peers. The Lonesome Croo all showed up in bright pink T shirts with a dragon logo. They are Eliza O'Neil HM, Peter Hyson AHM, Hilary Burt, Hannah Orcutt, Jeff Pedersen, and Johannes Griesshammer, Naturalist.

## Oktoberfest October 9-11

Calling all able-bodied CC and those willing to work for grub and libation at the Cabin. The spendid fall weekend will soon be upon us and what better time to convene at the Cabin for buttoning it up for the winter, trail clearing, road work, and whatever bosses Waddell and Stroker have in store for you. Just to gaze on the new woodshed structure nestled in between the aged shed and the Cabin is worth the trip. Bridgett Qualey will be concocting her usual epicurean delights, so let's hear from you so we can get a head count and look forward to seeing you. Details are available from Stroker at 781-641-2506 or drop him an e-mail at [stroker@alumni.clark.edu](mailto:stroker@alumni.clark.edu).

## Madison Hut Croo Framing Project

Dick Low is working with Sally Dinsmore on the current framing project. It could be one of the more interesting displays because we'll have spanking brand new hut walls on which to hang your grinning visages, maybe with museum-quality lighting. The sooner you scour your attics for your era croo pictures, the sooner Dick and Sally can organize their collection and go to the architects with the request to design the new hut around your classic pictures of yesteryear.

Here are the years we need to fill in the collection: 1943, 1946, 1947, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005

Dick is at richardalow@comcast.net and you can mail him at 938 Bay Road, Hamilton, MA 02136. Every one of our hut framing projects has been financially supported by the former hut croos, so dig up your moment in history, drop in a check to the OHA for \$100, or whatever makes you comfortable, and make Dick real happy to open his mail.

## Just a few words about the Cabin

Jackson has some tough coding stipulations that have impacted virtually every lodge in the valley that is open to multiple occupancy. We are no exception and, in spite of the fact we were proactive in constructing a sturdy fire escape and have upgraded our exit signs and fire extinguishers, we are still under the scrutiny of those municipal officers charged with safety code enforcement. We just wanted to let you know that we are working on conforming to the regs in a reasonable fashion and keeping our venerable structure safe for all to use. But it takes money for upgrades, so we continue to ask all users to pitch in their nightly use fees and be watchful for freeloaders and dead heads that still think the place is theirs to use freebies and that firewood splits itself and walks up hill. A big thanks for all who send dues plus extra for the Cabin.

## Next Steering Committee Meeting, October 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Lester's B B Q in Burlington is the meeting place, October 6. Everyone is welcome and proprietor Doug Shaffer's food is great. Need directions? They are on ohcroc.com.

## Fifth Annual OH Maine Ski Trip Friday, February 25 through Monday, March 1, 2010

Would you believe that the OH have been skiing into the AMC's Maine Lodges for four years? Each trip gets more popular with our group and AMC groups, so if you are interested in returning next February or if this is your first time, pencil in these dates now and see Jim Hamilton at reunion for more details. Or call Jim at 617 391 6585, e-mail jhamilton@outdoors.org. A special Maine *Resuscitator* was published this past February and is on our website which gives an overview and sense of what to expect. This fifth annual trip will be camp-to-camp, starting the first night at West Branch, skiing to Little Lyford Ponds with an option to ski out via Gorman Chairback. That's lots of skiing, but the mileage is matched by the great company, food, entertainment, and spectacular Maine Woods experience. Our website will also publish the details, pricing, and group number for making reservations.

## 45th Anniversary of the MMVSP Grand Traverse & Alpine Picnic June 26, 2010



Madison croo with Brian Fowler. Left to right: RD Jenkins IV, Keith Sidle, Maayan Cohen, Maddie Polivka, and HM Hillary Gerardi

If last June's gathering of the Patrol is any indication of the popularity of this gathering, pencil in the day now and e-mail Brian Fowler, Quartermaster, that you will be filling your hamper with viands and planning to convene at the base of the auto road next June 26th. Rain, shine, wind—whatever the Old Rock Pile delivers that day—will help provide the proper atmosphere and increase the appetites and resolve of all those who assemble. It's open to everyone interested in socializing. Brian will need a headcount and might have to replenish his inventory of t-shirts, polo shirts and hats, so let him know at b2fmr@metrocast.net if you plan to come.