

**Spring 2011 Newsletter**  
**Mahoosuc Guide Service and Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge**

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## Greetings!

We are gearing up for our summer canoe trips. We had lots of snow this winter, so the rivers and lakes are high. The birds are in full song and building their nests lined with soft dog fur from our shedding dogs—how warm and comfortable. Every day, new flowers are blooming and the beautiful shades of green carpet the mountains surrounding us. What an amazing time of year!

Kevin is preparing for our third annual fly fishing canoe trip to the Miramichi River in New Brunswick in late June. If you are interested in joining us, we have two openings left. This river is world renowned for its Atlantic salmon runs. The trip is unique in that it is a paddling and fishing trip that moves camp each night. Kevin will be guiding with local fishing guides from the area.

We have two Allagash trips this year (so far) in July and late September. This river is rich in history from the river logging era, the scenery is beautiful, and there are always lots of possibilities for wildlife viewing.

Polly will be guiding a few women's canoe trips this summer. These are always fun with a relaxed, supportive environment to try new things. Umbagog Wildlife Refuge, in our backyard, is great for shorter weekend trips. Grand Lake Stream area is further afield and has the added Native plant study as part of the trip. It ends with the Grand Lake Stream folk festival.



We had a good winter with many great dogsledding trips. We would like to give a special thank-you to our apprentice, Joey Shaw (pictured on right), who was with us from September through early May. He was a big help to us this past fall/winter, and he got a lot of great experience behind a dogsled, on the trail and even with some early season paddling. Good job, Joey!



We continue to host fun events in the lodge. This spring we had our annual Old Fashioned Barn Dance with Old Grey Goose as the band. Senior College from Bethel was out for a meeting and Polly showed slides of her recent trip to Bhutan. Later this summer, we will have another wedding here, and in the fall, another Wilderness First Aid course and Maine Wilderness Guides Annual meeting. Please let us know if you would like to have an event here.

*Polly, Kevin, and all the doggies*

# From the Mailbox



*Dear Polly and Kevin,*

*We talked about the trip all the way back to Cape Cod. What a great time; it's hard to express to others what the dog sled trip was like. Watching the dogs work as a team, admiring their ability, endurance and spirit was thrilling. Friends enjoyed listening about the trip; it was hard to bring to life something you have to experience.*

*Gary and Lee  
Massachusetts*



*Dear Kevin and Polly,*

*Just a long overdue thank you for the wonderful time we had with you on the Allagash. So many times we think back on the "special feelings" we have filed away "on the back roads of mind" that result from the "way" you do things!*

*Our trip was not just a "trip"; it was an unexpected exposure to the traditional craft of canoe building and classical canoeing. While others pursue the "uncertainty" of high technology, we reacquainted ourselves with the simple joy and satisfaction of "proven" low technology.*

*Larry Cilley  
Maine*



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