

## Spring 2014 Newsletter

### Mahoosuc Guide Service and Mahoosuc Mountain Lodge

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## We're celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

Spring has finally sprung here, and I saw my first peeper last night. I look forward to their melodious chorus, one of my favorite parts of mud season.

### Dogsledding season ends with warm memories

We had a long dogsledding season, not only with our trips in Maine, but also both of our northern trips went this year. First, we went to Ouje Bougoumou, Quebec, with Cree elders David and Anna Bosum. We just returned from Kuujjuaq, Quebec, with Inuit guides, Allen Gordon and Willie Ningiuruvik. On this trip, we were lucky to have some very close sightings of the prehistoric musk ox.

Kate Orlofsky and Zack Buckley were great helpers this winter, and they joined us on a northern trip. Now that they have moved on to summer jobs, we are looking for two individuals to help us this summer with dog care and our canoe trips. Please contact us if you are interested.



*Canadian Inuit dog at our camp at sunset at Dry Bay, Ungava Bay, Quebec*

### Canews: Many summer adventures ahead!

We're expecting our summer to be a busy one with many canoe trips. The first is a two-and-one-half-week Thoreau/Wabanki Commemorative Canoe trip, which retraces Henry David Thoreau's canoe route 150 years ago when he wrote his book, *The Maine Woods*. It's a joint adventure with Maine Woods Discovery ([www.mainewoodsdiscovery.com](http://www.mainewoodsdiscovery.com)) in May.

Polly is excited to be going to Montana in June to paddle the Upper Missouri River, one of her favorites, with clients and friends.

Then in late July, we are offering our own Wabanaki/Thoreau Commemorative Canoe trip on the West Branch of the Penobscot River. We'll share the interesting history of Thoreau's adventures with Penobscot guide, Joe Polis. This is a great family canoe trip.



*Mahoosuc's homemade wood canvas canoes*

The Allagash River remains one of our most popular canoe trips. We have three trips planned so far for this season, and there is space available on them.

For those preferring the comfort of a cabin at night but interesting paddling and wildlife viewing in the day, we have a trip based from Loon Lodge in the Allagash Lake area.

Any women wanting to learn about wild edibles and medicinal uses on a canoe trip? This trip has the added benefit at the end of a stay

at Weatherby's Lodge, a traditional sporting camp plus the option to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Grand Lake Stream Folk Festival. This is a small festival packed with fun.

## Dog adoptions

For years, people have asked about adopting our dogs, and we have always said no. This year, however, we do have several who aren't interested in pulling, but would make great pets. Contact us if you are interested.

## Farewell to Roanan

We said good-bye to Roanan on April 8. He was Polly's alpha male and a stunning dog in his prime. We bred him twice, so some of his genes are still with us. Roanan had a good long retirement of four years, and we are still getting used to him not being here with his demanding leans and attentiveness to everything and everyone. He always gave 150% in harness. We miss you, old friend...

Hope you are all enjoying the coming of spring and that we will see some of you on a canoe trip this summer or fall!

Until next time,  
Polly, Kevin, and all the doggies



*Roanan*

Did you know that we have a [Facebook page](#)? If you haven't stopped by, please do, And while you're there, we'd love it if you would "Like" us.



## From the Mailbox

*Hi Polly & Kevin!*

*I think about you often and wanted to send a letter. Life has been wonderful and busy! I have 2 boys now; my Mom died last year after a too short but very brave fight against cancer. It reminded me how very precious life is. I always wanted to thank both of you for being such inspiring, wonderful people. I cherished my weekends with you on the trail. I learned so much just by being in your presence. Those memories are ones that I will always hold dear and will bring a smile to my face. Thank you so much for your time and presence. It helped shape who I am today and I am so grateful.*

*Hopefully I'll see you again soon!*

*Cathy C.  
Maine*

*To folks on the trip with the Inuit, April 2014:*

*Best wishes to you all. The trip was wonderful and our little traveling tribe made it fascinating and fun. Thanks to each one of you who brought so much to the adventure.*

*With love,  
Merle C.  
New York*

*Thanks, Polly, Sandy, and Mac, for a great adventure weekend with beautiful dogs, gorgeous scenery, hands-on dog sledding and cross-country skiing through a sparkling forest. Fun to have our kids running around a campsite working together, oblivious to the fact that it's 0 degrees F, not realizing how many things they are learning about the outdoors. All makes for a great ride back when you actually hear your kids say **thank you to parents** for finding and arranging such a great trip.*

*And yes, it did make it extra fun for Zach and Kevin to come the last day and explain not only what had to be done to load up, but why.*

*Take care and all the best,  
Hamilton H.  
Washington DC*