

June 2015

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Save a tree:

Help us save money and the environment. Email us if you would prefer to receive the electronic copy only.

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Visit the MITOC website mailing list page for more and instructions for signing up.

Dear MITOC Alumni,

Welcome to the summer edition of the GNARMPFSK newsletter. MITOC has been busy this spring term and we are happy to bring you a short selection of things that have been going on. Please enjoy!

- The MITOC Alumni Board

Activity Spotlight: Trail Work on the Nineteen Mile Trail

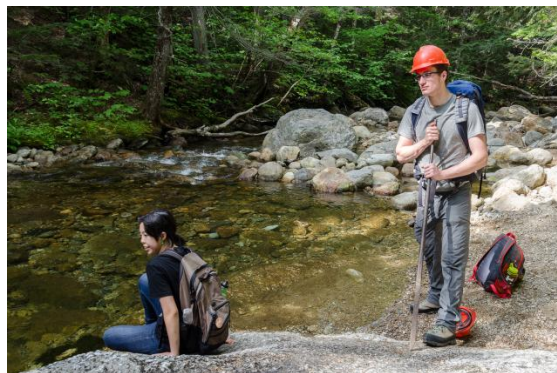
From Sally Miller, MITOC President

On May 30th, a group of twelve MITOCers grabbed some hard hats, gloves, shovels, and hazel hoes and headed up Nineteen Mile Trail for a trail crew with the Appalachian Mountain Club. We spent the day with crew leader Eric clearing drainages, setting rocks, and brushing to improve the trail. Afterwards, we swam in Nineteen Mile Brook and spent the evening at Intervale. It was a great way to give back to the trails since we benefit from them so much!

(photos courtesy of Luc Rocher)

About Sally:

I'm Sally, and I study mechanical engineering. I like to hike, climb, ski, and mountaineer, and I love hanging out with mountain goats in the Cascades.



Activity Spotlight: Winter School 2015

From Jessica Noss (3 season hiking chair) and David Cain (Website).

Winter School 2015 was packed full of activity – winter hiking, skiing, camping, ice climbing, and even a little alpine ice hockey. Check out the Gallery on the MITOC website for all the pictures. (<http://mitoc.mit.edu/gallery/main.php>)

Winter School stats:

- 376 participants
- 258 participants went on at least one trip
- 90 certified leaders
- Average of 19 trips per weekend during the month of January

Thanks Leaders!

We had 69 leaders who led at least one trip. Of those 69 leaders, a great number led trips every weekend. Kayla Meduna "won" Winter School, with a total of 7 trips led. Behind her, Nathan Ickes, Rob Foley, and Zavi Dogic all led 6 trips. Dan Brooks led five, and ten other leaders led a total of 4 trips.

New Website use

The lottery algorithm ensured that all participants who wanted to go on trips got to participate in Winter School. Our participants and leaders had ~8,500 sessions for a total of 71,000 page views. Use of the site followed an interesting cyclic pattern (see graph below) page views rose every Monday as leaders began to post new trips. Tuesday through Wednesday saw the most activity, as participants finalized their trip selections and later checked the results of that week's lottery. Then usage plummeted over the weekend, because everybody was out enjoying themselves in the Whites!

About David:

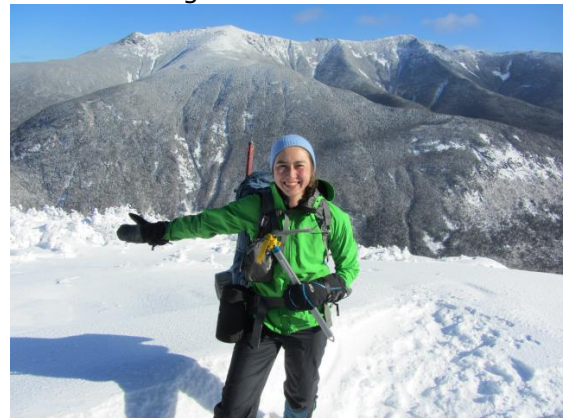
My name is David. I love climbing and cycling, at least when I'm not injuring myself from an excess of either. I like to build web sites, and am looking forward to creating a new trip management system similar to the Winter School site.



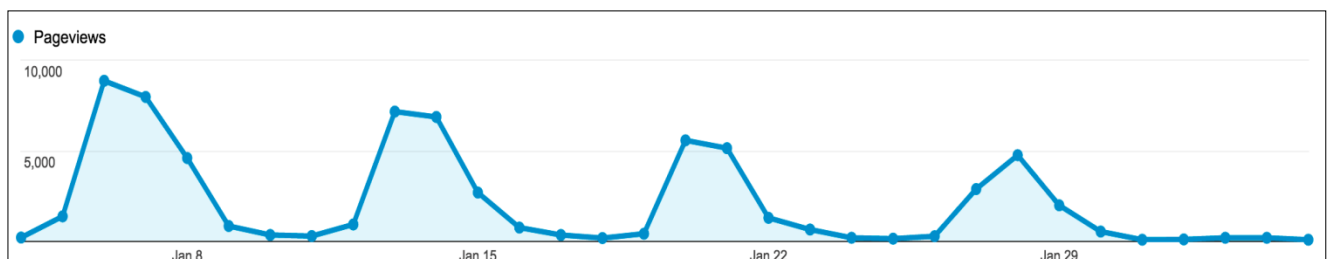
Students Hiking in Maine



Winter Driving: The Recitation



Jessica on Cannon Mountain



Activity Spotlight: Paddling

From Abby Hill, Canoeing Chair

The boathouse is excited to have some new gear! We have 23 new canoe/raft paddles (which will allow us to use rafts and canoes at the same time!) and 10 new whitewater kayak paddles. We've also ordered a substantial amount of safety gear: enough PFDs that kayakers, rafters, and canoeists will all have plenty (and of the appropriate sizes), throw ropes, tethers, float bags, new sprayskirts for both whitewater and sea kayaks, and some extra paddling jackets for the cold water temperatures that we can experience most of the year in New England.



Photos from a recent Upper Charles canoe trip

News in Brief

Films: MITOC hosted the "Pretty Things" film in Dec joint with LSC and GW@MIT and had 125-150 people attend. We also hosted "First Ascents" by the same folks who do Reel Rock and had about 125 people attend.

Circii: June Circus ran a number of trips, including Franconia Ridge, Tripyramids, Welch-Dickey, and Isolation. There was still snow on the ground for the trips at **Spring Circus**, including hikes to Franconia Ridge, Moosilauke, the Kinsmans, Tecumseh, and some climbing at Echo Crag.

Expeditions: The Gilbertsons climbed both **Mt. Logan** (19,551ft) in Canada and **Pico Turquino** (6,476ft) in Cuba to complete their quest to climb all the country high points in North America. A gaggle of MITOC members were seen on **Denali** this climbing season: Dan Weber and Charles Gruenwald summited last week and Pavel Gorelik and Brian did the week before. Jim Mediatore is guiding on the mountain with plans to lead his group to the summit. Kris Brewer made it to the high cache but didn't acclimate in time for the weather window to summit (but had a great time anyway).

Gear and Cabins: MITOC is continuing to update its rental gear fleet. We are currently in the process of updating a number of XC ski sets and expanding the number of AT sets. Intervale was recently upgraded with a new railing on the deck. Ongoing access issues have prompted the Intervale team to start looking at creative options.

Contact Us

Feel free to get in touch with the Alumni Board if you have questions about what the club is up to or just want to share your experiences with MITOC. Did any of the activities remind you of your time at MITOC? We would love to hear about it – send old trip reports or even just a quick note. The email address is mitoc-ab@mit.edu.

Supporting MITOC

Interested in supporting MITOC's mission to facilitate year-round outdoor activities in the greater MIT community? There are many ways to help -- MITOC accepts donations through the MITOC website, and through giving.mit.edu, as well as through in-kind donations of certain types of gear in good condition. Most valuably, MITOC accepts your time, mentorship, and old trip reports. Contact the alumni board for more information.

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