“It’s perfect!”

Joanne Murphy expressed the sentiments of the first guests to see the completed restoration of Huntington Lodge. The inaugural event at the restored facility, a dinner for the ESF Board of Trustees hosted by Joanne, her husband (and ESF President) Neil Murphy, and the AEC staff, was held on a mid-October evening made magical by the setting.

The renovation was set in motion by former AEC biologist Ray Masters, who long advocated that we recognize Huntington Lodge as exceptionally valuable. Those who know Ray know of his love of winter so it was fitting that the final step in the process, moving in the new furniture, took place amidst an October snowfall.

The goal was to recapture the lodge’s original Great Camp look. The knotty pine paneling, the twig and spruce stair rails, and the whole-log archways give the building the sense of famed architect William West Durant’s original vision. The ideas of AEC educator Paul Hai combined with the architectural design work of ESF architect Gary Peden and the craftsmanship of Joel Delia, Joseph Novak and Thomas Stevens were simply superb.

But it is the Craftsman furniture, created by L. & J.G. Stickley Inc. and present at the lodge through the generosity of the Audi family, owners of the Stickley company, that brings the building to life. The interior décor and Mission-style furnishings selected by Laurie Vecchio of Stickley and Hai provide the ideal match for the artistry of the building’s restoration. Every room glows with the rustic elegance that graced the building when it was constructed in 1911.

The entry brings guests into a foyer that features a reconstructed, historic fireplace and a staircase reflective of vintage Durant architecture. The foyer opens onto a formal dining room now that the confining interior wall has been removed. New floor-to-ceiling windows draw in the late afternoon sunlight. A painting of Wolf Lake Cabin done by the late Justus Mueller, who taught at ESF during the 1930s and ’40s, and restored by West Lake Conservators of Skaneateles is newly placed over the dining room fireplace.

Among the important changes was reconfiguring the bedrooms into suites so every room has direct access to a bathroom. This was accomplished by converting the bedroom closets into vanities, a powder room and a shared full bath. Beds were made up with Hudson’s Bay woolen blankets consistent with the Great Camp era. The kitchen design, crafted by Amish cabinetmakers, continues the building’s feel while integrating efficient, modern appliances for professional catering.

Continued on page 2
The goal was to recapture the lodge’s original Great Camp look.

Of course, the main attraction remains the Trophy Room. Multiple-pane windows frame the historic picture-window view of Arbutus Lake and its beautiful sunsets. Archer Huntington’s chair, an oversized easy chair, was reupholstered exquisitely by Stickley (see accompanying article, below). Rocking chairs, a leather sofa, an oriental rug, beautiful tables and a fire in that magnificent, massive fireplace create warmth that one can imagine was the attraction when original owners Anna and Archer Huntington entertained guests.

The primary purpose of Huntington Lodge has always been to host small groups in style, and tremendous thought went into planning how the new spaces could host groups (see “The Road to Renovation,” this issue). At the October rededication, the dining room and Trophy Room accommodated 23 people for dinner and an evening program. Several ESF trustees became the first to stay overnight in the renovated bedrooms.

Now that the work at Huntington Lodge is complete, we are turning our attention to restoring Arbutus Lodge and the landscaping to the same rustic elegance that existed a century ago. The red trim on the exterior of Huntington Lodge, a hallmark of Durant style, will soon adorn Arbutus Lodge. Our goal will be to have an honored guest once again say, “It’s perfect!”

Watch Paul Hai’s presentation, “Weaving the Threads of HWF History” on the AEC and ESF Communications web sites, or contact Paul to arrange an in-person storytelling.

A Treasured Old Chair Gets a New Look

By Paul B. Hai

Huntington Lodge has served countless occupants and seen many changes over time. One of the enduring features through 75-plus years of College stewardship is Archer Huntington’s massive, low-slung chair. At roughly a century old, the chair was showing its age, a situation representatives of L. & J.G. Stickley agreed to rectify by taking it to their facility in Manlius, N.Y., to recondition and reupholster.

Through design or perhaps coincidence, Archer’s chair was the first piece of furniture off the truck and into the renovated lodge. This beautifully refinished chair is a direct connection to the people who had the vision to give their property and buildings to the College. It seemed fitting that Archer’s chair should have the distinction of coming home first.
Huntington Lodge
Renovation 2009

With thanks to all the partners, friends, and supporters who made the 2009 renovation of Huntington Lodge possible.

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Anna and Archer Huntington

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On October 13, a large delivery truck emblazoned with the Stickley name backed up to Huntington Lodge. This was the culmination of more than five years of development, design and hard work. It was also the first snow of the season, setting a quiet, contemplative tone to this day that represented the last steps of so much work done by so many individuals.

In the fall of 2004 we held a staff meeting while nestled around a fire in the Trophy Room. A primary agenda item was to discuss the increasing use of Huntington Lodge and the parallel increase in the wear and tear on this historic building. Out of that conversation came one idea that resulted in two major efforts: If we were to preserve Huntington Lodge for future generations, we needed to renovate the building and manage the intensity of use, while not necessarily decreasing the frequency. This meant transformation away from a 17-person bunkhouse and lightening the pressure from some activities that took place in the building.

This recognition led to the initiation of a renovation plan for Huntington, its sister structure Arbutus Lodge and the greater Arbutus Area, and inspired thinking about creating a new conference facility, the Carriage House. On the initial concept posters, we called Huntington Lodge a “Diamond in the Rough,” acknowledging the College’s foundation-up remodeling in the 1940s as a great canvas on which to reach back to the original aesthetic still preserved in the Trophy Room.

Over the next several years we worked with a host of talented and tireless people who helped us advance our ideas. This included the College administration, led by President Neil Murphy; the ESF College Foundation, Inc.; ESF Physical Plant staff members; faculty and students from the ESF landscape architecture department; Janet Null of Argus Architecture, who was responsible for the restoration of Great Camp Sagamore and who helped us truly appreciate the architectural legacy we had inherited; representatives of L. & J.G. Stickley Inc.; many private donors; and the fantastic crew members who did the demolition and reconstruction work.

The result of these contributions of ideas, time, financial support and skill is a Huntington Lodge that has been literally transformed (see “Huntington Lodge: Brilliance Restored,” this issue).

While the Trophy Room is much as it ever was, with the exception of extraordinary new furniture, the remainder of the building was dismantled to the studs and rebuilt, floor to ceiling. We reconfigured rooms and traffic flow with the removal, relocation and creation of walls. The care with which this work was conceived and executed is revealed in the powerful feeling you get walking into the Lodge: Hasn’t it always been like this?

And that is the way it felt as the Stickley truck, now empty, drove away: There we were on a quiet day, looking out from Huntington Lodge and over Arbutus Lake as the gray clouds hung low and close, feeling as though the past 18 months had never happened, and that Huntington Lodge had always been nestled modestly in the heart of the Adirondacks just like this. That feeling belies the long road we traveled to renovation. Huntington Lodge is once again stunning: a former diamond in the rough, cut now to sparkling perfection.

Please visit www.esf.edu/aec/ for more photos of the restored Huntington Lodge.
As I settle into my new home in Newcomb, I can't help but think back to a time when I was first introduced to the Adirondacks. Growing up just a few hours away in Montreal, Quebec gave me, my parents, sister and brother the opportunity to experience the beauty this area has to offer in all seasons. I remember countless winter days near Lake Placid, cross-country skiing the trails at Mount Van Hoevenberg, hiking through the serene forests, and sledding as fast as our courageous hearts would allow.

Our adventures didn’t disappear with the snow. Summer wouldn’t have been complete without camping at Fish Creek Pond. I cannot think of any summer memories more vivid than those canoe trips, the excitement welling inside all five of us as we paddled two hours into our wilderness home for the next week. I look back on my family’s vacations to the Adirondacks (as well as countless other outdoor adventures) as having very lasting and profound effects on the person I have become and the direction my life has taken.

My most cherished memories, both in the Adirondacks and elsewhere, all seem to have one commonality—being outside. Instrumental in shaping my interest in ecology and education were the days spent playing in forests, near ponds and oceans, and in my own backyard. Throughout adulthood, these interests continued to grow into professional interactions within the scientific and education communities.

In contrast, children today have increasingly limited experience of the outdoors, which many believe is contributing to decreased understanding and appreciation of the environment on which humanity depends. As I see more children disconnected from the natural world, I feel more passionate about getting children outside to help ignite interest in understanding and questioning that world.

Connecting with the natural world is critical to a child’s development and well-being. Early outdoor experiences lead children to fully appreciate and build a relationship with their environment. Ask an ecologist or outdoor enthusiast what first sparked their interest, and most often you will hear the answer is not what they learned in an upper-level science class, but actually getting dirty, wet, and hooked on nature. A field station like Huntington Wildlife Forest is an ideal setting in which to become acquainted with nature.

Life has come full circle for me. Remarkably, my work at the AEC encompasses many of my passions: being outside, learning about the natural world, and guiding others to do so. I have worked with a variety of schools on small mammal and deer ecology, and the mining history of the area. I will be building new programs in the coming months. I am excited about the opportunities for education and outreach and look forward to building lasting relationships with schools, students, and organizations in the area. I hope to pass along the wonder of the Adirondacks in all that I do, providing outdoor experiences and incorporating scientific research as a teaching tool to educate, inspire, and empower young minds.

As Senegalese poet, Baba Dioum writes, “In the end we conserve only that which we love; we will love only that which we understand; we will understand only that which we are taught.” My goal is not only to teach about the natural world, but to inspire curiosity and a desire to learn as well.

Erin Vinson is an Education Specialist with the AEC.
The Hudson River Watershed: Source to Sink in Eight Days

By Karin E. Limburg

The year 2009 marks the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson’s exploration of the river that now bears his name. As part of the celebrations, I led five undergraduates and three graduate students with interests ranging from environmental chemistry to fisheries to sustainable development on a weeklong field course in June. We began in the Adirondacks at the headwaters of the Hudson River and ended at the river’s terminus at the southern tip of Manhattan Island.

We began at Huntington Wildlife Forest (HWF) because of its special place in the watershed. Before Colvin Verplanck’s decisive measurements of elevation in his High Peaks surveys, it was thought that Harris Lake and its feeder streams and lakes were the ultimate source of the Hudson River. Indeed, the trio of headwaters – Round and Corner ponds draining into Catlin Lake, and Wolf Lake – form the second headwaters area for the Hudson. Speaker Jon Erickson of the University of Vermont set the stage for the course by describing the tangled, historical interplay of opportunity, exploitation, and conservation that defines the Adirondack region. Speakers Stacy McNulty and Colin Beier from the AEC told the students why HWF is an excellent site on which to observe the generation of many of the ecosystem services that support the watershed. We explored characteristics of a headwater lake (Wolf) and hiked around Arbutus Lake with Colin.

Wednesday of that week took us downriver to Hudson Falls and Fort Edward (still in the Upper Hudson), to get firsthand perspectives on the PCB dredging issue. We met former ESF alumnus Jim Sullivan EFB ’06 and General Electric engineer Ed LaPointe to see GE’s on-site remediation, and with Richard Bopp, professor of environmental geochemistry at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, got a broad perspective and tour of the initial dredging projects. We departed these sites to meet U.S. Geological Survey hydrologist Gary Wall and state Department of Environmental Conservation environmental chemist Simon Litten at Cohoes Falls, the natural fall line in the Mohawk River (the Hudson’s largest tributary). There we learned about the history of this fascinating region. We followed them to the Troy Dam and finally saw tidewater there. We ended the day at the Huyck Preserve, a small ecological research station tucked away in the Helderberg Hills.

Our exploration continued Thursday with a visit with René VanSchaak of the Greene County Industrial Development Agency to learn about attracting businesses that would agree to sustainable development practices. The students came away with deep respect and excitement.

That day, we caught up with the “Quadricentennial Flotilla,” a collection of ships that included the replica of Henry Hudson’s boat the Half Moon, the Clearwater, the Ian Fletcher (Riverkeeper’s boat), and an antique fireboat. We had seen evidence of the “Quad” from celebratory banners posted as far up-watershed as Newcomb.
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday were taken up by exploring tidal freshwater wetlands and learning about new exotic species threats, eel conservation, stream ecology and restoration, and real-time data networks. We did all this while working our way from River KM 165 (Tivoli Bays) to River KM 40 (Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory), visiting a number of places in between and meeting with experts who shared their knowledge with us. All the way we collected our own data to make comparisons as we moved further down the watershed. For instance, comparing the conductivity of Wolf Lake water (22 microSiemens/cm) to the lower Hudson (5,776 microSiemens/cm) showed the phenomenon of increased dissolved ions as we moved literally out of the clouds down to the head of the estuary.

Monday was our final day. We rallied early from our only motel stop (in Tarrytown) to catch a commuter ferry to lower Manhattan. The New York Water Taxi, a large hydrofoil, sped us from Yonkers, around the southern tip of Manhattan, to Pier 11 (at the eastern end of Wall Street) in just under an hour. The students experienced the vibrant hustle-bustle of people heading to their jobs. We were met by Mike Levandowsky, a Pace University biologist who has a terrific command of the history of Old New York. We spent three hours with him, learning about architecture and history as we tromped about the oldest parts of the city. The noise level was a stark contrast to the Adirondack woods. Our last stop was the Hudson River Foundation. There we had lunch, final presentations from our hosts at the foundation, and a discussion about the week’s experiences. The trip wrapped up with a New York commuter trip (subway and Metro North train rides back to Yonkers), followed by the long drive back to Syracuse, 40 miles west of the Hudson River watershed.

This course was run in 2009 to celebrate the Quadricentennial of Henry Hudson’s voyage of discovery. It was a similar exploratory voyage for the student participants, who saw the river and its watershed from source to sink, from many places and perspectives. They also had a chance to measure and observe a small fraction of its biophysical conditions themselves. This integration of data collection, meeting with experts and really seeing the places where the issues play out is an invaluable type of experiential learning.

Karin Limburg is an associate professor in the Department of Environmental and Forest Biology.

The original ship Half Moon was commissioned in 1609 for the Dutch East India Company. Henry Hudson, an Englishman, was hired to search for a passageway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans to open up a route for the spice trade. Hudson instead sailed up the river that was later named for him. This 85-foot-long replica sails on the Hudson River today as a living history exhibit.
Standing in the parking lot of ESF’s Moon Library under gray skies and an intermittent drizzle, surrounded by a fleet of vehicles, I thought: “What have I gotten myself into?” As brand-new freshmen said good-bye to their parents and families, the prevailing thought going through my head was, “What do I know about leading a group on a retreat? How do I make sure the goals of the retreat – bonding, group dynamics and camaraderie – are met?” But it was too late now to reflect; we were beginning our adventure.

The Environmental Scholars Program is a National Science Foundation-funded scholarship program to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education. This new program at ESF is geared toward promoting inclusive excellence with a goal of creating a more diverse student population. The program provides financial aid to students in STEM majors.

One of the primary goals of the program is to create a unified group of students who learn from each other about the different STEM majors at ESF, support each other in their coursework, engage in meaningful interdisciplinary service work and graduate with a well-rounded experience. As the first step, each year the group meets prior to the academic year for a retreat at the Adirondack Ecological Center.

Stopping briefly at Old Forge, the E-scholars were quiet and reserved, as expected. They’d just travelled from home and been whisked away on a long drive to an unfamiliar place that smelled of pine, soil and moisture. It was going to take time and common experience to break the silence.

Arriving at the AEC we were greeted by a fabulous display of thunder rumbling through the hills and rain pelting us. After dinner, AEC educator Paul Hai gave a fascinating history of the AEC and a test of our knowledge of American history.

The next morning, we met under clearing skies by the bunkhouses for a tour and introduction to the geology of the Adirondacks. Visiting the headwaters of the Hudson River was a highlight for many, as was the description of the industry surrounding the town of Adirondac. By far one of the more impressive sights was the nearly intact blast furnace that rose like an Aztec ruin from the forest. After lunch and hikes up Goodnow Mountain or along the shore of Arbutus Lake, we enjoyed a wonderful swim in Rich Lake as a crescent moon rose over the fire tower on Goodnow Mountain.

Fog greeted us Tuesday morning, but we looked up with hope to see that a blue sky was just visible. We were going whitewater rafting. The weather cleared by the time we reached the river and the day turned out to be exquisite. I watched people grow on the river that day, learn to trust each other, rely on each other for their lives and test their own limits. It was an emotional experience.

That evening around the campfire, I sensed the camaraderie and fun of a shared experience. Everyone was full of chatter, and one E-scholar shared her gift for playing the fiddle. Sprawled out under the night sky full of shooting stars, a clear sense of just how small we are in the grand scheme of the universe swept over us.
The fire that evening was a time of reflection, a time to think about what we would take away from this retreat. I’m hoping the E-Scholars will retain a favorite memory that will help them through their first year at ESF. When stress starts to take over, the students can reflect on these days in the woods, be reminded of what buoyed them as they stepped out of their comfort zones here and use that strength to see themselves through each challenge.

Returning to campus, I realized the goals of the retreat had been attained. We all returned with a newfound sense of confidence, and I came back changed, too. I felt happy and excited by the possibilities for our world with young people like these caring about it. I look forward to watching all that these wonderful people will contribute to the world as they journey through it!

It is obvious from the reflections of the E-scholars and orientation leaders that they too were changed by our weekend in the woods. Please visit www.esf.edu/aec/E-scholars.htm to read their personal reflections. Here are just a few:

“Bringing everyone together before their first college semester starts at the AEC, isolated from distractions, to bond with the people they will know for hopefully the next four years and beyond, is a unique and powerful experience.” — Kathleen Dugan (teaching assistant, chemistry)

“I have never in my life been anywhere with absolutely no lights. As I was lying in my bed, I put my hand in front of my face and I couldn’t see it! And it was so quiet that my ears were actually buzzing.” — Stephanie Anos (Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y.)

“I have never been somewhere where I can just pick blackberries and eat them right off the bush. Nor have I ever had the chance to actually learn what the plants I’ve been seeing were called.” — Danielle Thomas (Queen’s Village, N.Y.)

Kelley Donaghy is an assistant professor in ESF’s Department of Chemistry.

The Land Ethic
HWF metal dump reveals a rare find

Historic land use decisions are often considered unwise by contemporary standards. That was the case with the metal dump at Huntington Wildlife Forest. A legacy of generations past, this quarter-acre plot was used as a repository of metal and related debris. As an institution committed to good stewardship of the land, we recognized our responsibility to lead by example and clean up the dump.

Last spring we put ideas into action. Work-release crews from the Moriah Shock Incarceration Program (MSIP) spent 225 man-hours over seven days hauling bottles, cans, wire bales, hot water heaters, 55-gallon drums, guardrails and parts of old automobiles to recycling dumpsters at the Town of Newcomb transfer station.

While most of the material was of no interest to us, one item caught our attention: a porcelain toilet base with “Adirondack” written in the glaze. A call to Doreen Alessi at the Adirondack Museum revealed that after plumbing moved indoors, several companies manufactured lines of products with that name. The museum did not have an example, so we were happy to formally donate the toilet, once again proving one man’s trash is another’s treasure.

The project was a success and we greatly appreciate the crew’s efforts. We hope to maintain the partnership with MSIP, which provides life and leadership skills for inmates while helping with the maintenance and management of HWF.
The mere thought of hunting a snail seems silly, for they are famously known for their, well, snail’s pace. Last summer, however, I did just that, embarking on a snail-finding journey across the Adirondack Park with research technicians Maxwell Wightman and Corrie Blodgett. We were working with Dr. Colin Beier, an AEC ecologist, on a research project investigating the role of calcium in maintaining biodiversity in an acidified landscape (see Spruce Moose, Spring 2009, pg. 3). We learned quickly that to find snails in the forest, you must look closely, and once you do, you can find more than 500 snails in a single square meter!

A necessary component of a snail’s diet, calcium is used for shell development and maintenance, reproduction, and other physiological processes. Snails consume calcium found in living and dead plant materials, invertebrates, and other animals, sometimes including other snails. Also, they can ingest calcium in small soil particles by rasping mineral-rich rocks using their radula, a sand-paper-like mouthpart. Snails pass calcium through the food chain, as they are consumed by a number of animals including salamanders, birds, and small mammals.

Our research this past summer focused on investigating snails (as well as vegetation and salamanders) at 12 sites across the Adirondacks, with varying calcium levels in the uppermost soil layers. Two of these sites were on the Huntington Wildlife Forest near Ackerman Clearing in the Archer Creek Watershed. One site, dubbed HWF14, had the highest level of calcium among all 12 of our sites and three to four times the amount of the other site, HWF15. HWF15 was ranked sixth out of the 12 sites we were investigating, in terms of calcium.

To find snails, we employed two methods: timed searches and extraction from leaf litter. During the timed searches, we looked for medium- to large-sized snails on rocks, trees, logs, and the ground within a 10x10-meter area. Additionally, from each site, we collected 1 square meter of leaf litter, which we later processed to extract the tiny snails that dwell in the litter layer. Some snails were less than 1 mm wide, hardly visible to the naked eye! We dried and sieved each litter sample, then used magnifying visors to detect snails and later identify them. From all 12 sites, we collected 2,672 snails belonging to 28 species.

Preliminary results indicate a link between snails and available calcium. At the two sites on HWF, we found 393 snails – two-thirds from HWF14 and one-third from HWF15. Even though these sites were only 200 meters apart, they differed in their species composition. At HWF14, we found four types of snails that were absent from site HWF15. At HWF15, we found a few snails that were absent from HWF14. Both sites contained species of several families. For example, the small spot (Punctum minutissimum) was present at both sites. It is a tiny golden-brown snail no wider than 1.5 mm that lives in the leaf litter. Its numbers often correspond to the amount of available nutrient calcium, and as expected, we found 174 small spots at HWF14 and only 38 at HWF15.

Our work this summer was funded by the U.S. Forest Service Northeastern States Research Cooperative. We also benefited from the assistance of Ken Hotopp, an alumnus of Huntington Wildlife Forest (wildlife crew 1980-81). Ken has a consulting firm, Appalachian Conservation Biology, and specializes in rare and little-known land snails and slugs. Snail identification would have been nearly impossible without an advance copy of the “Field Guide to the Land Snails of New York State” by Hotopp and Tim Pearce of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, and illustrated by Kathy Schmidt of Hudsonia. Results of this state Biodiversity Research Institute project should be available soon.

Annie Woods (EFB ’07) was a senior research support specialist and educator at AEC.
The long history of research at the Huntington Wildlife Forest (HWF) provides an important database for evaluating long-term changes in ecosystem processes, including the influences of atmospheric pollutants. Over the past three decades, researchers have investigated the cycles of sulfur, aluminum, calcium, nitrogen and mercury, to name a few biogeochemical subjects.

The HWF has an impressive list of credentials in this regard:

- National Atmospheric Deposition Program site since 1978 (see Spruce Moose, Fall 2008, pg. 6).
- National Trends Network and Mercury Deposition Network site for the last decade.
- Atmospheric Integrated Research Monitoring Network (AIRMoN) site through 2001. Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNET) site as of May 2002. CASTNET is operated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and provides atmospheric data on the dry deposition component of total acidic deposition, ground-level ozone and other forms of atmospheric pollution.

HWF has also been a site in various regional biogeochemical studies including the Integrated Forest Study, the Adirondack Manipulation and Modeling Project and the Adirondack Long-Term Monitoring (ALTM) Lake Project. Faculty members involved with these investigations have included Myron Mitchell (SUNY-ESF) and Charles Driscoll and Laura Lautz (both at Syracuse University), with technical support by Pat McHale, David Lyons, Charlotte Demers and Stephen Signell. Seven graduate students from ESF and SU, and several undergraduates, have conducted a major portion of their biogeochemical research at HWF since 2006.

Research conducted by this group contributed to raising HWF’s profile in academic circles worldwide. Despite such recognition, the larger community was not necessarily aware of what was being learned at the station. For example, people hiking the popular trail to the fire tower atop Goodnow Mountain might not know about the scientific advances happening directly across the highway.

Recently, that has begun to change, however, because state-of-the-art technology has penetrated the heart of the Adirondacks.

The installation of high-speed Internet service to the AEC provided the means to disseminate large amounts of scientific data rapidly. A key turning point was the awarding of a National Science Foundation (Major Research Instrumentation Program) grant to Mitchell’s group. This allowed us to upgrade monitoring equipment and install a wireless data transfer network within the Arbutus Lake Watershed (see photos, left).

Since the advent of this new system, data (e.g., air and water temperatures, stream levels, snow accumulation) are now transmitted to the main ESF campus in near real-time and posted on a website (http://www.esf.edu/hss/em/huntington/index.html) for the entire world to view. Data are archived and available for downloading.

The website includes two cameras showing hourly conditions on Goodnow Mountain and Arbutus Lake. The webcams serve the Northeast Regional Phenology Network by collecting photo data for assessment of the timing of events such as leaf-out in spring. Visit the website for short movies of ice formation and breakup on Arbutus Lake; the video of an entire year’s pictures provides a fascinating perspective on the changing Adirondack seasons.

Having a website with near real-time results and digital images is not only a useful tool but an excellent means to increase public visibility for research at HWF. Other colleges and high schools use the online resource for classes and projects. Currently, the website averages more than 100 visitors per week, including visits from throughout the United States and other countries. Near real-time data monitoring is just the beginning, with many more exciting things to come at the HWF.

Pat McHale (EEF ’96) is an instructional support specialist for the Department of Environmental and Forest Biology.
Alumni Reunion This August

Get out your hand lens, waders and hip chain: It’s time for the HWF reunion! Former students, researchers, and alumni of the Huntington Wildlife Forest and their families are invited to attend. (Field vests are optional).

Enjoy a weekend of summer fun, fond remembrances and new experiences. See what’s new, including the renovated Huntington Lodge with its view of sparkling Arbutus Lake. Activities for young and old include a wine and cheese social, lively presentations on current research and Adirondack history, hikes, canoeing, games, campfires, and optional trips to the Wild Center, APA Visitor Center and Adirondack Museum. Plan your summer vacation around the HWF Reunion!

For more information: See www.esf.edu/aec or contact the Adirondack Ecological Center at aechwf@esf.edu or phone 518-582-4551 for reservations.

Become A Reunion Sponsor: If you would like to help a recently-graduated student attend the reunion, please contact AEC. It’s a great way to stay connected and support fellow alumni, even if you cannot personally attend.

If you come...

What are the dates? Aug. 13 to 15

Where can I stay? On the HWF: in a cabin or your own tent; or in town

Where can I eat? In the Rich Lake Dining Center or nearby restaurants.

What can I do? Attend the wine- and-cheese social, learn about recent Adirondack history and research, take a hike, paddle a canoe, visit a nearby attraction, reconnect with old friends and make new ones.