

Great To Be In The Moosehead Area In February!

February at Moosehead Lake features sled dog races, ice fishing, chocolate

by Mike Lange

GREENVILLE – The term “something for everybody” is often overused. But that’s the best way to describe the first three weeks of February in the Moosehead Lake region which starts with sled dog races and ends with the conclusion of the Moosehead Lake Togue Fishing Derby.

The Plum Creek Wilderness Sled Dog Races take place Saturday, February 6 at Leisure Life Resort on Lily Bay Road in Greenville. The 2015 event was a huge success with 20 mushers participating and over 200 spectators enjoying the day’s festivities.

The 2016 races are shaping up to be even better since the size of the purse has doubled and registrations are coming in steadily, according to race organizers.

Competitors this year include Andre Longchamps of Pont-Rouge, Quebec, winner of last year’s long-distance race; and Rico Portalian of Milo, who won last year’s 30-mile race in Greenville and last weekend’s 30-mile Maine Highlands Sled Dog race in Brownville.

Spectators can meet and mingle with the teams starting at 8:30 a.m. and the Plum Creek 70-mile race begins at 9 a.m. The West Branch Pond Camps 30-mile race will get underway at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, visit www.100milewildernessrace.org.

The weekend of February 12-14 is filled with outdoor and social activities for all ages.

On Friday, February 12, from 1-2:30 p.m., join a guided snowshoe/walk along the shoreline of Moosehead Lake around Dunn Point to the park manager’s residence where warm refreshments will be served lakeside.

Park admission is \$1 for ages 5-11, \$4 for Maine residents ages 12-64, \$6 for non-residents ages 12-65, \$2 for non-residents 65 and older; persons under 5 and Maine residents 65 and older are free.

The annual Father-Daughter Dance takes place on Saturday, February 13 at the Greenville Rec Center from 7-9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each and on sale at the town office.

The highlight of Sunday, February 14 – Valentine’s Day – is the

12th annual Moosehead Lake Chocolate Festival from 1-4 p.m. at the Greenville Masonic Lodge, sponsored by the Moosehead Lake Region Chamber of Commerce.

“I’m very excited about this year’s festival,” said Chamber Executive Director Angie Arno. “This year, we have new and exciting items added to the chocolate selections. Our kid’s corner will be hopping with special activities and giveaways for the kiddos. The Silent Auction features many items including a couple of all-inclusive weekend excursions at Moosehead Lake.”

Choose 12 samples from a selection of over 40 delectable chocolate delights; admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for youngsters.

For those who like a spicy treat, the annual Moosehead Riders Chili and Chowder Cook-Off takes place Friday, February 19 at the clubhouse on Scammon Road from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, contact Chris Shields at chrisnapa.shields@gmail.com or 695-3784.

The Natural Resource Education Center’s Moosehead Lake Togue Derby continues on February 19-20 with weigh-in stations at the Masonic Hall. There will also be a Wild and Tame Dinner by donation at the Masonic Hall on Saturday, February 20 along with drawings of all the door prizes and a silent auction.

Details are posted at www.nrecomoosehead.org.

Saturday, February 20 also features the Blue Ridge Riders annual club cookout at Moosehead Sled Repair and Rental in Rockwood from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Arno said that some events that were originally scheduled for school vacation week, such as a snowmobile radar run and poker run, were canceled because of poor weather conditions. “We are keeping our fingers crossed that February will bring some cold temperatures and more snow,” Arno said. “If that happens, we will try to have a weekend of activities in early March. For now, we are enjoying the downhill slopes at Big Squaw, as well as ice fishing and cross country skiing and snowshoeing throughout the region. The backcountry snowmobiling is wonderful, too.”



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Moosehead Lake Togue Derby
 with Ricky Craven
 January 29-31 and February 19-21

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AND YOU DON'T NEED TO FISH TO WIN!!!

- 1ST DOOR PRIZE: WINNER CHOOSES FROM ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VACATION PACKAGES FOR 2 PEOPLE OR TAKE THE MONEY!**
- 1. UNIVERSAL STUDIOS IN ORLANDO** (Fly round trip from Bangor on American Airlines and stay 5 nights at Universal's Cabana Bay Beach Resort. The package will also include round trip airport to hotel transfers and the Universal 4 day park to park tickets. Maximum payout is \$1850.00)
 - 2. CARNIVAL CRUISE TO THE BAHAMAS** (Sail from Boston on Norwegian Cruise Lines ship the Dawn. Sailing in 2016 from June to October. This seven day cruise leaves on Fridays and returns the following Friday. Spend seven nights on the ship with four of them docked in Bermuda, the ship is your hotel and dining room, the island is yours to explore. Maximum payout is \$2000.00)
 - 3. IT'S VEGAS, BABY!** (Fly from Bangor to Las Vegas round trip on Delta Airlines and stay 5 nights at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in a deluxe king room for two adults. The package will also include round trip airport to hotel transfers. Maximum payout is \$1900.00)
 - 4. \$1,500 CASH**

2ND DOOR PRIZE:
 SAVAGE AXIS STAINLESS STEEL .308 WITH SCOPE

3RD DOOR PRIZE:
 STOEGER 20 GAUGE- UPLANDER DOUBLE BARREL

4TH DOOR PRIZE: ICE FISHING PACKAGE- AUGER, JET SLED, AND MORE

5TH DOOR PRIZE: \$250 COLD HARD CASH

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 The Stress Free Moose - Greenville
 Moosehead Bait and Tackle - Rockwood
 Mountains' Market - Dover-Foxcroft
 Van Raymond Outfitters- Brewer
 Or online at www.NrecMoosehead.org!

BIGGEST TOGUE CASH PRIZES:
 1ST - \$1,500
 2ND - \$500
 3RD - \$250

Join us for a wild and tame dinner from 4-7pm on Sat., Feb. 20 at the Masonic Hall. All door prizes will be drawn after the dinner. Dinner by donation - at the door. You do not have to be present to win. See official rules handout for more details. There will be an auction all day Sat., Feb. 20 at the Masonic Hall to benefit NREC's Youth program. Stop by and bid on some great prizes!

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Plum Creek Wilderness
Sled Dog Race

Sunday, February 6

Starts at 9 am

at Leisure Life Resort in Greenville



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NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION CENTER EVENTS

Wednesday, February 17

Snowshoeing ages 8 & up. Meet at Greenville High School at 8:45am. Leaving at 9:00 am returning at 11:30am. This is an NREC & AMC event. Dawna Blackstone will be leading the trip. Snowshoes will be available. Please wear warm clothes, boots, and bring a water.

Friday, February 19

Masonic Hall - Silent Auction from 10 am til 4 pm this is to benefit Maine Woods Explorers Childrens Programs. Lots of items.

Saturday, February 20

Masonic Hall - Silent Auction continues from 10 am til 7 pm.
Masonic Hall - Wild & Tame Dinner from 4 pm to 7 pm.
Masonic Hall - Ice Fishing Derby prizes will be drawn at 7 pm.

*Come and Enjoy all the fun
activities at Moosehead Lake*



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Moosehead Lake February Vacation Activities



Friday, February 12th

Nature Hike at Lily Bay State Park

Lily Bay State Park 1:00 PM

Gate Fees Apply

Saturday, February 13th

Father Daughter Dance

Greenville Rec Center 7-9 pm

Purchase tickets in advanced at Greenville Town

Office, \$5 per person. FMI: 280-0990

Sunday, February 14th:

Heart Hunt at Big Squaw

Big Squaw Ski Resort

Twelfth Annual Chocolate Festival

Masonic Temple 1:00PM —4:00PM

Movie: Empire Strikes Back

Greenville Rec Center, 6-8 pm

FMI: 280-0990

Wednesday, February 17th

Snowshoeing & Animal Tracks

Greenville high school, 9 am-11:30

FMI: 280-0990

Friday, February 19th

Chili Chowder Cook-off

Moosehead Riders Clubhouse 5:00PM

Moosehead Lake Togue Derby

Silent Auction,

Masonic Temple

10am-4pm

Saturday, February 20th

Blue Ridge Riders Annual Club Cookout

Moosehead Sled Repair and Rental

Rockwood 11:00AM—6:00PM

Moosehead Lake Togue Derby

Silent Auction,

Masonic Temple, 10am-7pm

Wild & Tame Dinner,

Masonic Temple, 4-7pm

Prizes drawn at 7 pm.

Ongoing events during the week:

Ski Big Squaw All Week!

February 13th—21st

Big Squaw Ski Resort 9:00AM—4:00PM

Downhill Skiing, Cross County Skiing

and Snowshoeing Trails

More Youth Activities All Week

February 13th—20th

Greenville Recreation Department

FMI: 280-0990

For more information on these and other activities happening in the Moosehead Lake Region please contact the Moosehead Lake Visitor Center by calling 695-2702 or stopping in to see us at 480 Moosehead Lake Road Tuesday through Saturday 10am-4pm.

CHOCOLATE FOR EVERYONE



The Moosehead Lake Region's

12th Annual Chocolate Festival

February 14, 2016

1:00—4:00 PM

Masonic Temple, Pritham Ave

Greenville, Maine



Adults: \$10

Kid's Corner: \$5

Tickets at the Door

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GREENVILLE REC ACTIVITIES:

Saturday, February 13

Father/daughter dance at Greenville Rec Center located at 33 Leisure Life road. Underneath Trailside Restaurant. Tickets on sale at Greenville Town Office - \$5 per person. 7 pm til 9 pm.

Sunday, February 14

Movie 'Empire Strikes Back' from 6 to 8 pm at Greenville Rec Center located at 33 Leisure Life road. Popcorn and drinks will be served. Children ages 5 & up. Parent must be with child. No cost-donations are appreciated!

Monday, February 15

Crazy hat day at the rink. Prizes will be awarded.

Tuesday, February 16

Painting class with artist Bonita Doughty - ages 10 & up. Cost is \$25 from 1 pm to 3 pm. Painting will be of a cartoon owl with a full moon. Limit is 8. You must call to reserve a seat. If you're interested, call Sally 280-0990.

Wednesday, February 17

Game - 'Humans vs. Zombies' - ages 7 & up. At Greenville High School Gym - nerf guns with the soft bullets - dress like a zombie - for more information call Sally at 280-0990 or Connor Kronholm.

Thursday, February 18

Sliding at Squaw Village - meet at Greenville High School. Leaving at 1 pm - if you need a ride call Sally 280-0990. Returning at 3 pm. Make sure to bring a sled, warm clothes, and water.



Plum Creek Wilderness Sled Dog Race

Saturday February 6, 2016

8:30 a.m. Mingle and meet the mushers and their dogs as they prepare for the race.

9:00 a.m. Plum Creek 70 mile race start

10:30 a.m. West Branch Pond Camps 30 mile race start

11:00 a.m. Snow Shoe races for all ages, sponsored by the Appalachian Mountain Club, prizes will be awarded

11:30 a.m. Skijoring Demonstration at Leisure Life Resort

Noon to 1:00 p.m. Lunch and chance for visitors to mingle through downtown...

Noon to 2:00 p.m. 30 mile Racers begin their return to Resort

1:00 p.m. Appalachian Mountain Club education series "Skins and Skulls" in the Rec Center beneath Leisure Life Resort

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The movie "Iron Will" will be shown inside the Rec Center at Leisure Life Resort

3:00 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bonfire to "Welcome" the 70 mile mushers back and Skating on Leisure Life Pond...

7:00 p.m. Mingle with Mushers and Wind Down, Cocktails available for purchase

7:30 p.m. Awards Ceremony

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