Spring 2023 Newsletter

Fellow Friends of Camp Santanoni –

The first of the "wonderful Santanoni spring parties" happened from May 21 to June 2, 1893. Huybertie and her friends "were crazy to be invited" and upon arriving at Santanoni "rushed about admiring and wondering at everything." Today, 130 years later, visitors to Santanoni arriving by wagon, bike, horseback, or foot still feel drawn to explore the landscape and buildings of this remarkable place. Whether you choose to join in volunteer work, on a special tour, or have a peaceful walk to the edge of Newcomb Lake, Santanoni has something to offer everyone. Thank you for your support – we look forward to seeing you at Santanoni this summer!

Winter Weekends Returned!

After a two-year hiatus, it was a treat to host skiiers and snowshoers at the Artists Studio again for Santanoni Winter Weekends. You had not forgotten about the event – about 600 people came out over the three weekends. We hope to see you again

next year. Bring a friend to enjoy the best free cup of hot chocolate for miles around! The Friends of Camp Santanoni thank the DEC staff and rangers who supported the event as well as the AARCH/Friends volunteers who helped boil water, chop wood, and serve warm drinks.

Santanoni EPF Funding

For the second year in a row, the Friends of Camp Santanoni was delighted that our NYS Legislature and Governor Hochul included funds for AARCH in the Environmental Protection Fund for work at Camp Santanoni. AARCH reached out to our state legislators to advocate for financial support of Camp Santanoni during the state budget negotiations. The 2022 allocation allowed AARCH to hire a historic site manager, the first full-time staff person devoted exclusively to the historic site. It is also supporting the development of a fire protection strategy for the Gate Lodge and Main Camp. Fire is an existential threat to the buildings at Santanoni and their remoteness makes the creative adaptation of more traditional fire prevention strategies essential. This second round of funding will enable AARCH to execute the fire protection plan, continue to support staffing, and make progress on other necessary work at the historic site.

Welcoming our new Historic Site Manager!

Please join us in welcoming Wilkes Jordan as our AARCH's new Camp Santanoni Historic Site Manager. This new position will help us advance interpretation, communication, and fundraising at the site. Wilkes Jordan attended SUNY College at Brockport for history and museum studies and graduated in the spring of 2019. Throughout her undergraduate degree, she interned for a variety of museums and historical sites, including a summer at the Rochester Museum and Science Center, and the Sheerar History Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma. After graduating, Wilkes completed her first internship at Camp Santanoni in the summer of 2019, where she discovered her strong interest in historic interpretation. Wilkes returned to Santanoni the following summer. Her internships at Santanoni inspired her to continue her education as a historian. Wilkes pursued her Masters Degree at the Cooperstown Graduate Program through SUNY Oneonta. At Cooperstown, she focused on studying historic preservation, historic interpretation, and public education at museums and historic sites. After graduating, Wilkes worked with her father for a year, preserving historic windows across western New York. In her free time, Wilkes pursues a number of hobbies, including rockhounding, bird watching, and visual media studies. We're pleased to have Wilkes as part of the AARCH and Santanoni team. Feel free to reach out to her at **wilkes@aarch.org**.

Regular Summer and Fall Tours

Did you know that you can get a free tour at Santanoni every day during the summer? From July 1-August 20, the Santanoni staff will offer tours of the Main Camp at 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. In addition, tours will be available Thursday-Sunday for the last two weeks in August (August 24-27 and August 31-September 3) and Saturdays from September 9 through October 8.

NEW this year – from July 8-August 19, join the staff for Santanoni Farm Tours every Saturday at 2 pm.

2023 Summer Staff

This summer, we're happy to welcome three new summer staff members to Santanoni: Patrick Donohue, Jiayi Li, and Emily Russell. Patrick is studying for an MA in History at SUNY Brockport, Jiayi is studying for an MA in Historic Preservation Planning at Cornell, and Emily is a recent graduate of SUNY Brockport's Anthropology and Public History programs. As a group, they bring varied experience in museums, public history, historic preservation, and teaching, and we're delighted to have them on board. They'll be arriving in mid-June – look for them when you visit! Jennifer Betsworth is continuing to serve as the Santanoni Interpretive Coordinator and is excited to work with the staff and offer new programs this year. Thank you to the Town of Newcomb for financial support of these positions.

Volunteer Work Days

Friends volunteers play a critical role in maintaining the work of decades at Santanoni and moving the site forward. Can't make it to one of our scheduled volunteer days but have an idea for a volunteer day we should hold, or have a group that would love to come volunteer? Please reach out to **wilkes@aarch.org** or **santanoni@aarch.org**– we'd love to work with you!

June 16: Opening Camp Volunteer Day, 9:30 am to 3 pm
The Friends of Camp Santanoni hold this annual workday to spruce up the buildings at the Farm and Camp. We'll spend the day opening buildings, sweeping, mopping, and getting camp set up for the season. Relish the breeze off of Newcomb Lake, share your time and skills, enjoy a tasty treat or two, and meet this summer's new staff and other Friends. If you're interested in participating, please reach out to **Santanoni@aarch.org**.

June 20: Gate Lodge Cleaning Volunteer Day, 10 am to 3 pm
This year, we're holding a new workday to help the staff clean up the Gate Lodge. We'll sweep, mop, dust, and tidy to help the building shine for summer tours and events. Coffee and treats will be provided. If you're interested in participating, please reach out to **Santanoni@aarch.org**.

Farm Landscape Work Days
Howie Kirschenbaum will be holding farm landscape work days on **Tuesday, July 18, Wednesday, August 16, and Tuesday, September 12**. From 9:30 am into the afternoon, the group will work on various landscape tasks at the farm to help maintain the open, farm landscape. Be sure to bring hand tools, work clothes, and a lunch. If you're interested in volunteering at one of these events, please RSVP or reach out to Howie directly at hkirschenb@aol.com.

2023 Special Events

Gate Lodge Tour
On **July 1, August 5, and September 2** (Saturdays), join us for special tours of the Santanoni Gate Lodge. Since 1905, the Gate Lodge has welcomed visitors to Santanoni Preserve and has housed staff from that time until the present. We'll explore its landscape and architecture, hear about the staff, Pruyns, and Melvins who called it home, the building's role in the Douglas Legg search and early state ownership, and take a peek inside the building, all while enjoying a serenade from Fishing Brook. Tours meet at stone arch at 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. $10 donation requested per person. Six-person tour maximum; advance reservations requested. Contact **Santanoni@aarch.org** to reserve a spot on this limited opportunity.

West Cottage and Farm Guided Tour
Ever been curious to peek into the West Cottage or the buildings at the Farm? This tour is for you! On **July 28 or August 25 (Fridays), or September 23 (Saturday),** meet an interpretive guide at the West Cottage parking lot for a guided tour with a special focus on the farm staff, guides, and caretakers who lived and worked at the Santanoni Preserve. The tour will include an easy, one-mile walk along the Santanoni road to the historic farm, with stops at a few points of interest along the way. Excursions meet at the West Cottage near the Santanoni parking lot at 9:30 am and will end at the Farm around midday. Plan to bring a lunch or snack and return at your leisure or continue to the main camp on your own. $10 donation requested per person. Ten-person tour maximum; advance reservations requested. Contact **Santanoni@aarch.org** to reserve your

spot.

August 8: Women of Camp Santanoni
While women have always played a central role at Santanoni, their stories have not always been told. This day-long excursion will weave their stories into the familiar Santanoni narrative and offer insights about the changing experiences of women in the Adirondacks since 1892. For Anna Pruyn and her female guests, Santanoni was a place to relax and explore. Huybertie Pruyn especially enjoyed the opportunity to break free of expectations away from the eye of her mother, the head of the Albany Anti-Suffrage Association. For the female staff, being a woman in the woods was more work than play. Later generations of Pruyn women were less formal and brought fun and drama to the family. Enjoy a leisurely draft horse wagon ride, bike or hike along the 9.8 mile round-trip excursion. Eat your picnic lunch under the same eaves where Anna Pruyn took photographs and Huybertie made mischief. This tour is co-sponsored by the *Friends of Camp Santanoni* and the Town of Newcomb, and is led by Santanoni Interpretive Coordinator Jennifer Betsworth. The tour begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. SUGGESTED DONATION: $35; A limited number of seats are available on a horse-drawn wagon for an additional $30 fee. Contact info@aarch.org or 518-834-9328 for reservations.

September 21: Mindfulness Experience with Susan West Montgomery
The layers of history at Camp Santanoni are many, visible, and profound. They are seen in its natural and human-made features - buildings, roadways, fields, forests, ruins, vistas, and wildlife - and are echoed in the sights, sounds, smells, and feel of the place. The mindfulness experience begins at the Gate Lodge and will continue to the Farm Complex, using all our senses to become more fully present to all that is around us and taking time for an extended sit among the trees to deepen our connection to the land and to the more than human world. Nearer the farm, we shift our awareness to the features of the landscape that represent the more recent human story here. We will touch the buildings, spend time among ruins, and consider the continuity of history, natural and human, that brought us to this present moment. This experience is led by Susan West Montgomery, a Kripalu-certified Outdoor Mindfulness Guide and longtime preservation leader who has worked with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Action. This event begins at 9 am and ends at 1 pm. There is a suggested donation of $45 per person. Please note that this outing includes roughly 2.5 miles of walking at a leisurely pace over a dirt road. Contact info@aarch.org or 518-834-9328 for reservations.

October 3: Preserving Camp Santanoni
Join AARCH and journey back in time for an in-depth tour of this National Historic Landmark. The outing is a 9.8-mile roundtrip excursion on foot, by bike, or by horse-drawn wagon. We will stop at the Gate Lodge and Farm Complex before arriving at the Main Camp, masterfully perched on Newcomb Lake. On a private tour, walk into the camp's buildings to appreciate past and present workmanship and learn about the people who summered here, worked here, and learn about the decades of advocacy efforts that helped preserve this Adirondack jewel. This tour is led by AARCH Executive Director Erin Tobin. The tour begins at 9:30 am and ends at 4 pm. There is a suggested donation of $25. A limited number of seats are available on a horse-drawn wagon for an additional $30 per person. Contact info@aarch.org or 518-834-9328 for reservations.

This listing includes abbreviated descriptions. See **our website** for complete information.

Your Support and Feedback Matters

Join the *Friends* or renew your support and help us grow! You can donate/join on AARCH's website or through our GiveLively page. We also invite you to check out our website, follow us on Facebook or Instagram, or email us at Santanoni@aarch.org. Let us know what you'd like to see from the *Friends,* offer your suggestions for how to celebrate this special year, or share a favorite story about time you've spent at Santanoni.

Happy Adventuring!

Jennifer Betsworth
Santanoni Interpretive Coordinator

Erin Tobin, Executive Director
Adirondack Architectural Heritage

Please consider joining us to support our important work at Santanoni

Sign up to Volunteer

Donate to the Friends

Friends of Santanoni is a project of Adirondack Architectural Heritage with support from the Town of Newcomb and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

About Adirondack Architectural Heritage

Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) is the historic preservation non-profit organization for the Adirondack region. Since the early 1990s, Adirondack Architectural Heritage, along with NYSDEC and the Town of Newcomb, have worked to stabilize some of the major buildings at Camp Santanoni and provide interpretive services. In 1998, this partnership, along with the hundreds of others who love this special place, launched the Friends of Camp Santanoni to provide long-term financial and volunteer support for the camp.

Each summer, AARCH leads a robust series of tours across the Adirondack park of both private, public, and rarely-seen resources including great camps, prisons, islands, and hamlets. AARCH also advocates for the preservation of historic resources across the park, provides technical assistance, and helps connect owners of historic buildings to the information

and resources they need, such as tax credits, grants, and local contractors. Visit AARCH.org for more information and to join us!

1745 Main St. Keeseville, NY 12944 | 518-834-9328 | www.AARCH.org

// LET'S CONNECT //

Adirondack Architectural Heritage | 1745 Main Street, Keeseville, NY 12944

Unsubscribe info@aarch.org

Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent bysantanoni@aarch.orgpowered by

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!