

MESARD 2015 SEARCH REPORT

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SUMMARY:

Searches: 19

of Days on Searches: 26*

Hours in response: 1,095

Miles in response: 30,020

ALL SEARCHES ARE IN MAINE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Month	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Callouts	2	0	0	2	1	2 *1 post pone d	3	4 *1 post pon ed	1	3 *1 MWS	2	2

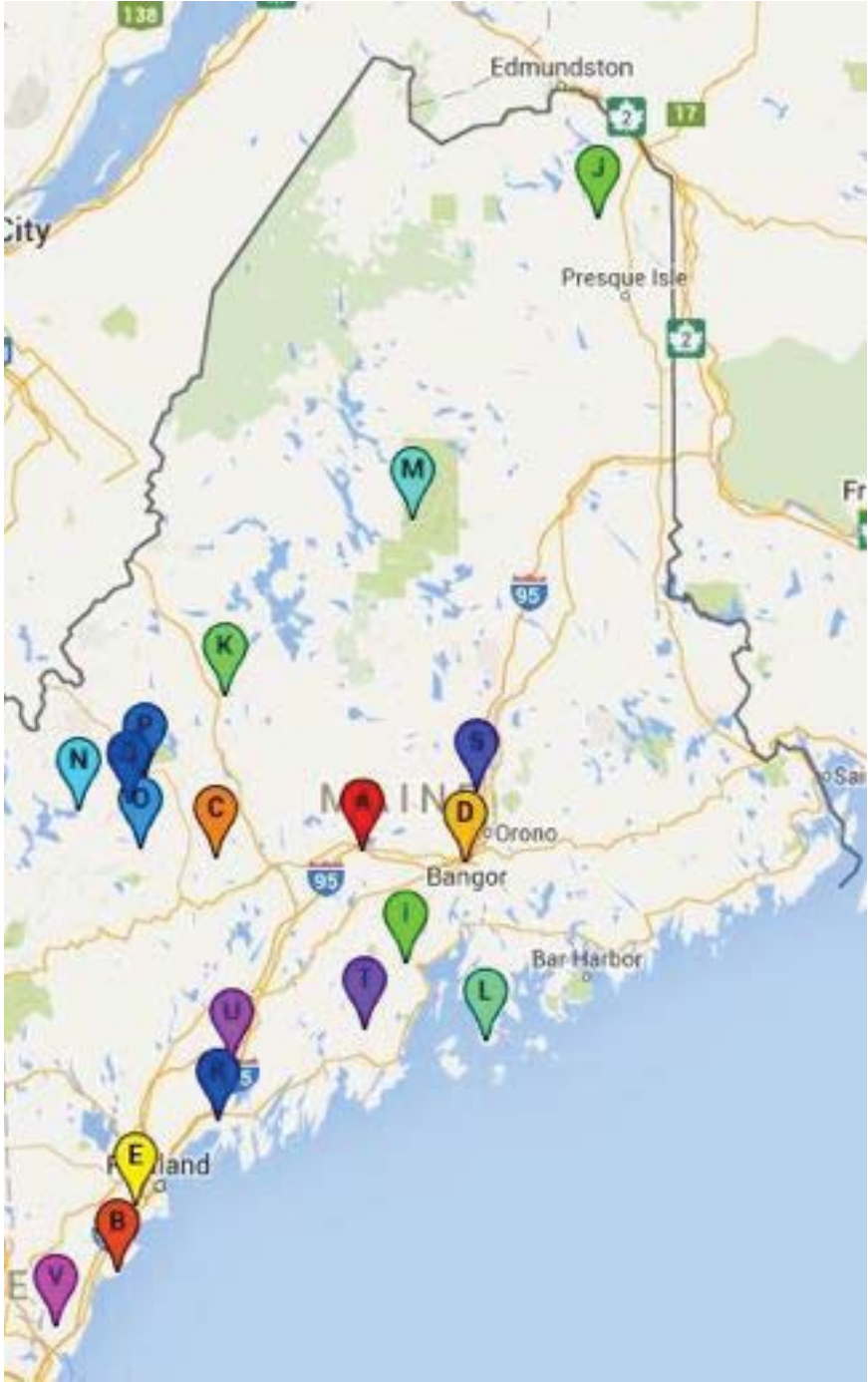
***Multiple days counted for 8/17 & 18 Stonington (Greenlaw), 8/28, 29, 30 Baxter State Park (Lyons), 10/10, 11, 12 (Largay) searches, 11/12 & 13 Alton (Vadas).**

Time of Day	0600-0900	0900-1200	1200-1500	1500-1800	1800-2100	2100-2400	2400-0300	0300-0600	
# Callouts	8 *(6 pre-planned)	1	2	2	1	1	0	4	19

Month	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Subject Types	LE/E, A/C			D, LE/W	LE/E	CC/H	CC/H D, C	H/W D, H	CC/H	CC/H S	D, D	D, D

Suicide/despondent, Runaway, Water, Dementia/wanderer, Child, Cold Case, Autistic, Hiker, G hunter, M homicide, Fisherman, LE Law Enforcement support, Evidence, Water Search, Other

MESARD SEARCH LOCATIONS 2015



2015 MEARD SEARCH LOCATIONS & SUMMARY

DATE: 18 Jan, 2015

LOCATION: **Bath/Brunswick, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 08:30

SITUATION: Article search for Brunswick police dept., track 42 hours old

OUTCOME: Articles were recovered by MESARD K9 teams (L/E)

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 2

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of days:
	6.25 hours	42 miles	1 day

DATE: 23 Jan, 2015

LOCATION: **Kennebunkport, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 21:00

VICTIM: 13 year old autistic child went missing (A/C)

OUTCOME: Subject was located at 22:20

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 9

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of days:
	27 hours	124 miles	1 day

DATE: 25 April, 2015

LOCATION: **Anson, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 05:40

VICTIM: Male 31 years old with bi-polar, went missing. (D)

OUTCOME: Subject was located at 09:45

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 10

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of days:
	33.5 hours	721 miles	1 day

DATE: 25 April, 2015

LOCATION: **Bangor, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned 07:30

SITUATION: MASAR event, Kenduskeag Canoe Race (L/E/W)

OUTCOME: Safe and uneventful river race

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 2

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of days:
	21 hours	257 miles	1 day

DATE: 22 July, 2015

LOCATION: **Belfast, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 12:00

VICTIM: Ulmer Russ 89 year old man left on an ATV, and did not return. He has a bad ankle and heart condition. ATV located and Subject was missing. (D)

OUTCOME: Ulmer Russ was found by **MESARD K9 Raven/Deb Palman** at approx. ½ mile from ATV at 03:30. Jim Bridge assisted in Russ's safe return.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 8

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	50 hours	947 miles	1 Days

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT & SEARCH PHOTOS****

DATE: 28 July, 2015

LOCATION: **New Sweden, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 04:30

Westmanland search

VICTIM: 7 year old boy, Tait Margison went missing after entering the woods with his family in search of their missing dog. (C)

OUTCOME: Tait Margison emerged from the woods to a road, and walked home at approximately 06:15. He was in good health.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 10

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	22 hours	917 miles	1 Days

DATE: 10 Aug, 2015

LOCATION: **Moxie Falls, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 03:00

VICTIM: Erika LaChance of Fairfield, 29 years old went missing, after boyfriend went swimming and returned to find her missing by the Moxie Falls area. (H/W)

OUTCOME: She was located at 08:35 next morning, on the shoreline of the Kennebec River and Moxie Stream (near the Forks) by a Walter Glynn, of the West Forks Fire Dept., who blew his whistle and Erika replied.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 8

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	53 hours	1532 miles	1 Days

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT & SEARCH PHOTOS ****

DATE: 17 & 18 Aug, 2015 LOCATION: **Stonington, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 19:00

VICTIM: 71 year old male, Bruce Greenlaw with Parkinson's disease, was reported missing after he did not return home to take his medicine, after going into the woods to check on machinery. (D)

OUTCOME: He was located 8/18/2015 at 05:40 near a small pond by a residence in the area, my MWS Wdn. Rudolf. Subject was deceased due to a medical event.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 18

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	650.5 hours	2,800 miles	2 Days

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 28, 29, 30 Aug, 2015 LOCATION: **Baxter State Park, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 11:50

VICTIM: 78 year old male, John Lyons, experienced hiker, left group, went missing.

OUTCOME: He was located 8/30/2015 by the pilot of the Maine Forest Service helicopter, after 3 days he was found alive and in good health. (H)

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 18 (3 day search event)

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	650.5 hours	5,415 miles	3 Days

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT & SEARCH PHOTOS ****

DATE: 29, Aug, 2015 LOCATION: **Rangeley, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: 00:00 *Preplanned, **Postponed**, due to Baxter Search

VICTIM: Gerry Largay, 66 y. o. woman missing off AT since July 23, 2013.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 0

DATE: 20 Sept, 2015 LOCATION: **Rangeley, Maine**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned, 06:00

VICTIM: Gerry Largay, 66 y. o. woman missing off AT since July 23, 2013. (CC/H)

OUTCOME: No remains recovered.

OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 10

Total MESARD VOLUNTEER	HOURS	MILES	# of Days
	156 hours	1,827 miles	1 Days

DATE: 10, 11, 12 Oct, 2015 LOCATION: **Sugarloaf, Maine**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned, 06:00 *3 days
VICTIM: Gerry Largay, 66 y. o. woman missing off AT since July 23, 2013. (CC/H)
OUTCOME: No remains recovered.
OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 17: (3 days search event)
Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 605 hours 4,523 miles 3 Days
**** SEE SEARCH PHOTOS AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 16 Oct, 2015 LOCATION: **Augusta, Maine**
PRESS CONFERENCE BY WARDEN SERVICE at 13:00
VICTIM: Gerry Largay, 66 y. o. woman missing off AT since July 23, 2013.
OUTCOME: Media Press-release: **Gerry's remains were located Wed. Oct. 14, 2015** by a contractor performing forestry services for US Navy, Redington, ME.
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 21 Oct, 2015 LOCATION: **Brunswick, Maine**
CALL OUT TIME: 07:00
VICTIM: 30 y.o. Lisa Marie Cox, went missing from a residence in Brunswick (S)
OUTCOME: Subj. found by MWS, deceased, close to residence of point last seen.
OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 8
Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 40 hours 654 miles 3 Days
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT & SEARCH PHOTOS ****

DATE: 12 & 13, Nov, 2015 LOCATION: **Alton, Maine**
CALL OUT TIME: 15:00
VICTIM: Robert Vadas 79 year old male, hunter with Parkinson's disease. (D)
OUTCOME: Subj. found alive and safe the next day. **MESARD member Jim Bridge provided medical assistance to Vadas.**
OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 13
Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 188 hours 2,521.5 miles 2 Days
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 15, Nov, 2015 LOCATION: **Union, Maine**
 CALL OUT TIME: 05:15
 VICTIM: Gordon Stiles, 82 year old Alzheimer's left nursing home facility in bathrobe, during the evening. (D)
 OUTCOME: Subj. found alive and safe, 08:00 he popped out on a road.
 # OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 17
 Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 44 hours 1,104.5 miles 1 Days
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 24 Dec, 2015 LOCATION: **Bowdoin, Maine**
 CALL OUT TIME: 17:23
 VICTIM: Guy Kittle, 84 year old male Alzheimer's went missing. (D)
 OUTCOME: Subj. found alive and safe by MWS Wdn. Jeremy Judd and K9 Tundra.
 # OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 10
 Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 29.5 hours 700 miles 1 Days
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 26 Dec, 2015 LOCATION: **York, Maine**
 CALL OUT TIME: 15:10
 VICTIM: 78 year old male, missing after walking in woods with family members, got separated at 12:00. (D)
 OUTCOME: Subject found alive and safe at 16:00
 # OF RESPONDING MEMBERS = 2
 Total MESARD VOLUNTEER HOURS MILES # of Days
 1.25 hours 0 miles 1 Days

2015 MESARD Search News Articles & Photos

Maine Search and Rescue member and dog locate missing Belfast man overnight

By Holly S. Edwards

Posted: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 - 10:30am

BELFAST — When 89-year-old Russ Ulmer went out on his ATV to inspect a recent logging operation behind his Belfast home and failed to return a couple of hours later, his family called police after their own search turned up empty. According to Warden Service Corp. John MacDonald in a press release Wednesday morning, Russ had taken his ATV for a ride behind his home at approximately 6:30 p.m. and did not return. Family searched behind the residence and located the ATV, but could not find Russ and called 911. Maine Warden Service game wardens and Belfast Police responded to the Russ residence on Shepard Road around 8:15 p.m. Tuesday. Also responding to the area to assist in the search were canine handlers with the **Maine Association of Search and Rescue Dogs**, Waldo County Sheriff's deputies and members of the Belfast Fire Department. Shepard Road is located between Route 137/7 and Pours Mill Road.

At 3:50 a.m. Wednesday, retired Game Warden and current MASAR/MESARD President Deborah Palman and her K-9 "Raven" located Russ Ulmer



Russ had become lost after leaving his ATV and setting off on foot to inspect the logging operation. MacDonald said Russ was cold but otherwise in good health. He was taken to Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast by Belfast ambulance for evaluation. http://emainehosting.com/mesard/pdf_documents/newspaper_articles/PressRelease-7_22_2015-Belfast_Palman_Find.pdf

<http://www.penbaypilot.com/article/maine-search-and-rescue-member-and-dog-locate-missing-belfast-man-overnight/56571>

SEARCH: 8_10_2015 Moxie Falls

[LaChance search update – August, 10 2015] Other than a few bruises from her unexpected overnight stay in the Maine woods, Erica LaChance from Fairfield is now safe among family and friends. At 8:30 this morning, LaChance was found by a searcher near the intersection of the Kennebec River and Moxie Stream located near The Forks, Maine. A member of the search team with the West Forks Fire Department located LaChance after she had responded to a whistle blow.

After taking an unfamiliar trail and becoming separated from three friends near Moxie Falls, LaChance quickly became lost yesterday afternoon at about 4:15 PM. After searching for LaChance for several hours, friends alerted the Maine Warden Service at 7:15 PM last evening. The search for LaChance began after dark and canine resources were utilized into the night. Upon being located this morning, the Maine Warden Service learned that LaChance swam across Moxie Stream to her north and came to the east shore of the Kennebec River where she spent the night.

A Maine Warden Service aircraft was deployed at daylight today as well as several more K9 team resources and ground searchers from the Maine Warden Service, the *Maine Association for Search and Rescue (MASAR), Maine Search and Rescue Dogs (MESARD), West Forks Fire Department, and family and friends of LaChance.

**The Maine Association for Search and Rescue (MASAR) is a non-profit organization that promotes and develops search and rescue resources for the state of Maine. MASAR provides training and certification for search and rescue volunteers using nationally-recognized standards. See mainesearchandrescue.org for more information.*



MESARD members responding to Moxie Falls search:
Elizabeth, Paul K9 Sardee, Leslie, Jay, Chad K9 Jenga

http://emaihosting.com/mesard/pdf_documents/newspaper_articles/8_10_2015_LaChance.pdf

<http://www.centralmaine.com/2015/08/10/fairfield-woman-missing-at-moxie-falls/>



Erica LaChance, 29, of Fairfield, was last seen about 4:15 p.m. Sunday as she, Gilbert, and two friends hiked to Moxie Falls for a swim after a Kennebec River rafting trip. She took an unfamiliar trail and got separated from the group. She was found safe around 8:30 a.m. Monday morning.

LaChance was found by Walter Glynn, a searcher with the West Forks Fire Department, and Gilbert, of Skowhegan, near the confluence of the Kennebec River and Moxie Stream near The Forks.



Missing Stonington man found dead



Courtesy of Hancock County Sheriff's Office
Bruce Greenlaw

By [Ryan McLaughlin](#), BDN Staff
Posted Aug. 18, 2015, at 8:55 a.m.

STONINGTON, Maine — The body of a missing Hancock County man was found early Tuesday morning, officials said.

Bruce Greenlaw, 71, of Deer Isle [had been reported missing](#) on Monday and apparently suffered a medical episode, according to Maine Warden Service Cpl. John MacDonald.

Greenlaw had last been seen at 3:30 p.m. Monday on the Park Road when he went to check on some machinery in the woods and failed to return, MacDonald said. Green law’s body was found at 5:40 a.m. Tuesday.

Search efforts were performed by the Warden Service, Maine Association for Search and Rescue, the Stonington Fire Department and Hancock County Sheriff’s Office.

http://bangordailynews.com/2015/08/18/news/hancock/missing-deer-isle-man-found-dead/?utm_source=BDN+News+Updates&utm_campaign=f459e758a8-RSS_AFTERNOONUPDATE_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_715eed3192-f459e758a8-82549925&goal=0_715eed3192-f459e758a8-82549925

Baxter State Park search: 8/28 – 30, 2015 John Lyons



Baxter State Park

August 30 at 12:56pm · Edited ·

John Lyon has been found and is now at Millinocket Regional Hospital. He is in good spirits and appears to be in good condition.

Many thanks to the Maine Warden Service for their professional leadership in this search effort. Thanks also to the Maine Forest Service pilots, MASAR and MESARD crews, Civil Air Patrol, Maine Conservation Corps, and the Rangers of Baxter State Park.

Lastly, credit to John Lyons for his positive attitude and exceptional fitness and for trying, in the end successfully, to help himself. What a great guy. So glad I got to meet him!

BANGOR DAILY NEWS

Missing Baxter hiker said he just wasn't ready to die'



Photo: Maine Forest Service Rangers

The nearly three-day search for missing 78-year-old hiker John Lyon ended happily with his being found on a rock slide on Sunday, Maine Forest Service Rangers said.

By [Nick Sambides Jr.](#), BDN Staff

Posted Aug. 30, 2015, at 2:51 p.m.

BAXTER STATE PARK, Maine — First seen holding aloft a walking stick crowned with a sock, battered from hiking 7 or 8 miles, 78-year-old lost hiker John Lyon had a simple explanation for his survival.

“I just wasn’t ready to die,” Lyon said, according to Maine Forest Ranger Ben Goodwin.

A Maine Forest Service helicopter crew’s [rescue of the lost hiker](#) gave a happy ending to Lyon’s 72-hour ordeal. The crew pulled Lyon from a rock slide near Annis Brook near Fort Mountain at about 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Before his rescue, the Virginian was last seen on Marston Trail near Mount Coe at around 1:30 p.m. Thursday. Lyon traveled 7 or 8 miles through rugged backwoods to get to the rock slide, said Goodwin, a crew chief aboard the helicopter.

“This is rough country. It is brutal for those guys [younger searchers] and he wasn’t on a trail or anything, so he was bushwhacking,” Goodwin said Sunday. “For someone of that age, it’s unbelievable that he has been out there for three or four days.” About 50 park rangers, Maine Warden Service, Civil Air Patrol and volunteer search and rescue workers had been looking for Lyon on Sunday, Baxter State Park Director Jensen Bissell said. Eighty searchers participated Saturday. Things hadn’t looked promising in the hours leading to Lyon’s discovery. No clues — articles of clothing, equipment or signs in the terrain — to Lyon’s whereabouts had been found, Bissell said.

The helicopter crew members had just finished radioing a Baxter State Park ranger who had been searching Annis below them when Goodwin scanned the area near the northeast side of Fort Mountain. “I saw him down along the stream. He had a stick and sock on the end of it,” Goodwin recalled. “I said, ‘Boy, that looks like him right there.’ We did a couple loops around and then [crew chief Mike McGary] said, ‘Oh, that’s him.’” Pilot Chris Blackie landed Goodwin and McGary on terrain bracketing Lyon’s location. The crew chiefs walked Lyon to safe a landing spot and Blackie collected them.

Lyon probably went around two mountains and over Fort Mountain before he was found — a testament to the man’s skill and strength as an outdoorsman, Blackie said. “It was unbelievable. It was such rough country, with a lot of cliffs and boulders,” Goodwin said. “Being that far from where they last saw him was pretty amazing.” Park officials had said that Lyon was reported to be an experienced outdoorsman who has hiked extensively, including a nonstop journey of the entire length [of the 2,180-mile Appalachian Trail](#). Lyon might have mistakenly come off the OJI-Coe-Marston Trail loop onto a bushwhacked trail that takes hikers to an airplane crash site, and “got turned around from there,” Goodwin said.

“He did say he fell and hit his chest. He had a lot of scrapes and marks where he was thrashing through the brush and stuff. He was beat up pretty good,” Goodwin added. “Being this many days into the search, you wouldn’t think he was going to make it.” Tired, dehydrated and perhaps disoriented at first, Lyon told the crew he had eaten a granola bar a day and slept only a few hours a night. They warmed him with blankets and gave him food and drink. “Then he kind of chuckled about it and said that he got

four or five hours of sleep last night and he slept in this morning. We all got a pretty good laugh at that,” Goodwin said. “He was very tired but still had a sense of humor, and he was very grateful for all the agencies that came together to find him.”

Lyon’s most immediate concern was ensuring that his family was notified of his rescue. Crew members made sure his family got the word, Goodwin said. Lyons was taken to Millinocket Regional Hospital, where he was in good spirits and appeared to be in good condition, park officials said Sunday night.

“We are very, very pleased that we found him in the manner we found him,” Blackie said. “You get really discouraged when you have one that doesn’t go very well.”

MESARD search photos at Baxter State Park Aug. 28 – 30, 2015



MESARD SAR K9 Maddy & Jay Holweger, K9 Roni (Troy Morey), Paul Magoon & K9 Sardee



MESARD SAR K9 Eron with Leslie Howe and William Nichols in helicopter. (right) Kelly and Ed Pontbriand with MESARD SAR K9 Tyco also get a ride in the helicopter, to their search areas (below) Spencer Fuller and MESARD SAR K9 Moxie search rock slides at Baxter State Park.



MESARD K9 Team on mountain at Baxter State Park search

<http://www.wcsh6.com/story/news/2015/08/29/search-expands--missing-hiker--baxter-state-park/71384058/>

<http://wtop.com/prince-william-county/2015/08/missing-local-hiker-found-alive-after-3-days-lost-in-maine/>

<http://bangordailynews.com/2015/08/30/news/penobscot/missing-hiker-reported-found-alive-in-baxter-state-park/>

MESARD search photos at Carrabassett Valley search For Gerry Largay Oct. 10 – 12, 2015





October 10 – 12, 2015 MESARD set up camp near Caribou Pond and participated in a 3 day recovery search for the remains of Gerry Largay. Almost all of the MESARD members were present over the 3 days. Thanks to Dan Pelletier for cooking meals and providing our base camp tenting area support, while Ed Pontbriand, Jim Bridge and Ronda Luce were operational base support. We appreciated the RTV and ATV rides up into the mountains and logging trails, until the “busted bridge” had everyone “hoof it the rest of the way”. Great team work and search effort by everyone on MESARD!



http://emaihosting.com/mesard/pdf_documents/newspaper_articles/Largay_Search.pdf



Geraldine “Gerry” Largay missing July 22, 2013 _ remains found Oct 14, 2015

MWS press releases:

MacDonald, John <John.MacDonald@maine.gov> [Augusta, Maine – Friday, October 16, 2015] The Maine Warden Service believes that skeletal remains discovered in Redington Township are likely those of missing hiker Geraldine Largay missing since July 22, 2013. Positive identification will be determined in the coming weeks by the Medical Examiner’s Office, however, due to the location of the remains and evidence gathered at the scene the Maine Warden Service feels confident that Geraldine has now been located. The remains were found Wednesday morning

Oct 16 at 1:14 PM

[Augusta, Maine – Friday, October 16, 2015] The Maine Warden Service believes that skeletal remains discovered in Redington Township are likely those of missing hiker Geraldine Largay missing since July 22, 2013. Positive identification will be determined in the coming weeks by the Medical Examiner’s Office, however, due to the location of the remains and evidence gathered at the scene the Maine Warden Service feels confident that Geraldine has now been located.

The remains were found Wednesday morning October 14 by a contractor conducting a forestry survey as part of an environmental impact statement on property owned by the US Navy in Redington Township. The contractor reported his findings to the Navy who subsequently alerted the Maine Warden Service. Personnel to include game wardens, State Police detectives, Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) special agents, and a Medical Examiner’s Office representative hiked to the scene of the remains yesterday morning.

The scene included skeletal remains and several pieces of clothing and belongings consistent with items known to be in Largay’s possession. The remains were located west of the Maine Public Reserve Land that contains a portion of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and about 3,500 feet east of the easterly shore of Redington Pond (see accompanying topographic map). The remains will be examined to determine the cause of death although investigators do not believe foul play is involved at this time.

These findings will bring closure to one of Maine’s most unique and challenging search and rescue incidents. Geraldine “Gerry” Anita Largay, age 66, started her hike on the AT in April of 2013 at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia; her trail name was “inchworm.” Her destination was Baxter State Park in Maine. Her husband George kept track of her along the way and made frequent pre-determined stops to resupply her.

On the morning of Sunday, July 21, 2013 she departed from her husband at the Route 4 AT crossing in Sandy River Plantation near the town of Rangeley. Later that day she texted her husband and advised she was on top of Saddleback Mountain. Geraldine was last seen on the early morning of July 22 at Poplar Lean-to on the Appalachian Trail (AT) in Maine. The attached photo of Geraldine was taken July 22 at Poplar Lean-to and is the last known photo of her. She was planning to hike that day to Spaulding Lean-to in Redington Township, approximately eight miles to the north.

The following day, July 23, she had planned to continue hiking north from Spaulding Lean-to located in Mount Abram Township to meet her husband who was waiting for her at the Route 27 crossing. Geraldine never arrived at that location. Until yesterday, search efforts yielded no clues that could be attributed to Largay.

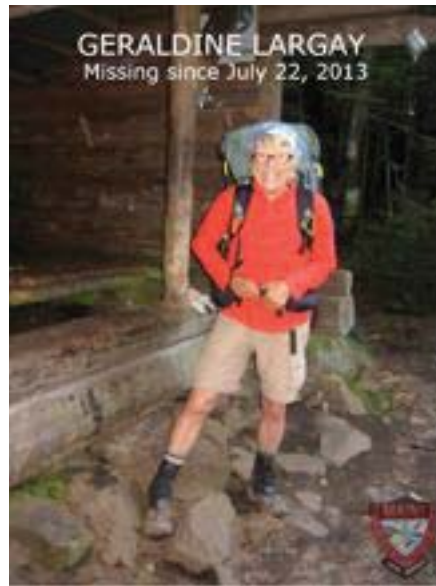
The Largay family has asked for time to come to terms with this new information before making any further public statement, but did want to express gratitude to all the searchers and investigators who have taken the time to search for Gerry. The family has been in contact with Maine Warden Service investigators and has been updated routinely about searches and investigative leads regarding her disappearance.

Photos courtesy of the Maine Warden Service. 1) Photo above: Last known photo of Geraldine Largay taken at Poplar Lean-to July 22, 2013 Photos below: 2) Map showing Appalachian Trail highlighting Poplar Ridge Lean-to, Spaulding Lean-to and what we believe is Geraldine’s final location discovered October 14, 2015. 3) Scene 1 photo taken October 15 showing line search. 4) Maine Warden Service search resource efforts.

Corporal John MacDonald, Public Relations & Information, www.maine gamewarden.com



Remains found near AT positively identified as Geraldine “Gerry” Largay



Maine Warden Service

Geraldine Largay had been missing since July 22, 2013. This is the last known photo taken of the Appalachian Trail hiker, whose trail name was "Inchworm."

By [Dawn Gagnon](#), BDN Staff

Posted Oct. 30, 2015, at 4:29 p.m. Last modified Oct. 31, 2015, at 6:51 a.m.

BANGOR, Maine — The Maine office of the chief medical examiner has positively identified the skeletal remains found on Oct. 14 in Redington Township near the Appalachian Trail as Geraldine Largay, the Maine Warden Service announced Friday.

The identification of the 66-year-old deceased hiker from Brentwood, Tennessee, was made through DNA analysis, according to Cpl. John MacDonald of the warden service.

After examination of the remains and working in conjunction with information from investigators on the case, the chief medical examiner determined Largay's death was accidental, caused by lack of food and water and environmental exposure. "These findings now bring closure to one of Maine's most unique and challenging search and rescue incidents," MacDonald said, referring to the [efforts to find Largay](#) that involved hundreds of people combing the rugged, forested area after she disappeared more than two years ago. The cellphone found in Largay's possession was examined by the Maine State Police Computer Crime Lab. Information found on the cellphone concluded that Largay reached Orbeton Stream and the discontinued railroad bed crossing in the late morning of July 22, 2013. Shortly after reaching that intersection, she continued north on the Appalachian Trail and at some point left the trail and became lost. The exact location where she departed the trail is unknown.

[Largay's remains were found on the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 14](#), by a contractor conducting a forestry survey as part of an environmental impact statement on property owned by the U.S. Navy in Redington Township, MacDonald said. The contractor reported his findings to the Navy, which alerted the Maine Warden Service.

Personnel from agencies including the Maine Warden Service, the Maine State Police, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and a state medical examiner's office representative hiked to the area where the remains were located the following morning. Skeletal remains and several pieces of clothing and belongings consistent with items known to be in Largay's possession were found at the scene, located west of the Maine Public Reserve Land that contains a portion of the Appalachian Trail and about 3,500 feet east of the easterly shore of Redington Pond.

Largay started her hike on the Appalachian Trail in April 2013 at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Her trail name was "Inchworm." Her destination was Baxter State Park in Maine. Her husband, George Largay, kept track of her along the way and made frequent predetermined stops to resupply her.

On the morning of July 21, 2013, Geraldine Largay departed from her husband at the Route 4 Appalachian Trail crossing in Sandy River Plantation, near the town of Rangeley. Later that day, she texted her husband and told him she was on top of Saddleback Mountain. Largay last was seen on the following morning at Poplar Ridge Lean-to on the Appalachian Trail in Maine. She was planning to hike that day to Spaulding Lean-to in Redington Township, about eight miles to the north. She planned to continue hiking north on July 23, 2013, from Spaulding Lean-to in Mount Abram Township to meet her husband, who was waiting for her at the Route 27 crossing. She never arrived at that location, MacDonald said.

"The Maine Warden Service wishes to thank the many law enforcement and EMS organizations, search and rescue volunteers and local business owners who generously gave their time and resources,"

MacDonald said. “We consistently see the community spirit in Maine, and this is another fine example of a community coming together to assist in helping a person and family in need,” he said.

MacDonald passed along the following statement from the Largay family: “We wish to thank all of those who gave their time and prayers while searching for our wife, sister, mother and grandmother. We especially would like to thank the entire Maine Warden Service for their dedication to this case. “It became apparent from day one that this was personal to them and they would not rest until Gerry was found. After all of the communication and information from everyone involved including the medical examiner’s office, Navy and the Maine attorney general’s office, these findings are conclusive in that no foul play was involved and that Gerry simply made a wrong turn shortly after crossing Orbeton Stream,” the family said. “Now that we know her death was an accident, we again ask all media for the respect of our privacy as we continue our grieving process with this new chapter of closure.”

<https://bangordailynews.com/2015/10/30/news/state/remains-found-near-at-positively-identified-as-geraldine-largay/>

MESARD search photos at Brunswick_Cox Search Oct. 21, 2015



MESARD
(Left: Sharon, Jim, Wdn. LaFlamme, Elizabeth, Sydney, K9 Kobuk) (Right: Nancy, Syndey, Elizabeth, William, Chad & K9 Jenga)



10-21-2015: Body of missing woman found in Brunswick, presumed suicide

Police say Lisa Marie Cox, 30, left the house late Monday night after arguing with her boyfriend, and didn't return.

BY ERIC RUSSELL STAFF WRITER
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Lisa Marie Cox, left, and Sarah Meade, right photo above

The Maine State Police crime scene unit was on hand to help process the scene off Maquoit Road in Brunswick where Lisa Marie Cox, who was missing since Monday night, was found hanging from a tree. Police resumed their search off Maquoit Road in Brunswick Wednesday for a missing woman. Lisa Marie Cox, 30, walked away from her home following an argument Monday night. *Gabe Souza/Staff Photographer*

A body found hanging from a tree in woods off Maquoit Road in Brunswick is presumed to be that of a woman who had been missing since Monday night, authorities said. Cmdr. Mark Waltz of the Brunswick Police Department said he believes 30-year-old Lisa Marie Cox committed suicide. The woman, who is from Brunswick but had been living in Texas until recently, was staying with friends on Running Brook Lane, off Maquoit Road, not far from Brunswick High School. She left the house late Monday night after arguing with her boyfriend about cigarettes, Waltz said, and didn't return.

Cox's body was found just before 8:30 a.m. Wednesday morning about 150 feet from the house where she and her boyfriend were staying. The two had come from Texas about two weeks ago. Waltz said police would continue to investigate Cox's death; including talking to the boyfriend, who was not identified but who police say has been cooperative.

That stretch of Maquoit Road was closed for much of the day Wednesday. Waltz said Cox's body would be taken to the State Medical Examiner's Office in Augusta for an autopsy to determine the cause of her death.

<http://www.pressherald.com/2015/10/21/police-searching-for-missing-brunswick-woman-and-her-5-year-old-son/>

Game Wardens find missing man

WCSH 2:43 PM. EST November 13, 2015



(Photo of Robert Vadas:provided by Maine Game Wardens)

UPDATE Friday 2:25 p.m. -- The Maine Warden Service tells NEWS CENTER that Vadas has been found alive. He is being evaluated by medical personnel and then will be transported to the hospital.

ALTON, Maine (NEWS CENTER) -- Game Wardens confirmed Thursday night that they are searching for a missing hunter in Alton.

Robert Vadas, 79, of Orono was reported missing around 2 P.M. Thursday. Lt. Dan Scott of the Maine Warden Service said Vadas had gone hunting in Alton and failed to return to meet his friend.

Game Wardens used an aircraft, dozens of K-9 teams (MESARD) and other resources to try and locate him Thursday night and into Friday morning.

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/game-wardens-searching-for-missing-hiker-in-alton/24350655>

Man who wandered from Union Assisted Living Facility was found Nov. 15, 2015 *Gordon Stiles, 82, left the facility Sunday morning*

Published 12:03 PM EST Nov 15, 2015 Photo: Maine Warden Service



UNION, Maine —Maine game wardens say they have located an 82-year-old man who wandered away from an assisted living facility in Union.

Authorities say they were notified at about 4:30 Sunday morning that Gordon Stiles had walked away from the assisted living facility and wandered into the woods.

Rescuers say he was located just before 8 a.m. behind a camp about a mile away from the facility. He was taken to Pen Bay Medical Center for evaluation.

Multiple agencies were involved in the search.

<http://www.wmtw.com/news/man-who-wandered-from-union-assisted-living-facility-found/36463072>

MESARD search deployment Christmas Eve 12/24/2015 Bowdoin, Guy Kittle

(Dec 24 2015 *From Facebook post: Missing Bowdoin Man found on Christmas Eve.)

Today in Bowdoin Maine Game Wardens were called to look for 85 year old Guy Kittle from the John Tarr Road.

Mr. Kittle had gone for a walk around 2:30 pm and when he did not return his family called the Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Department who then responded with a deputy and with assistance from Knox County and Kennebec County Sheriff Offices. The Maine Warden Service was also called to respond.

Several K-9 units from the Sheriff's departments as well as Maine Search and Rescue Dogs (MESARD) attempted to track or air scent Mr. Kittle in the area.

Four game wardens two of which were k-9 units immediately responded. A neighbor reported seeing Mr. Kittle walking the on the John Tarr Road about 3:00 pm and gave Game Wardens a direction of travel. Several searchers from Richmond and Litchfield fire department searched in the area and found fresh boot tracks that headed onto a trail off the John Tarr Road towards the Huffs Mill Road.

Game Warden Jeremy Judd and K-9 Tundra responded to start a track from that location. After tracking for a short distance K-9 Tundra went off the trail and found Mr. Kittle off the trail in the middle of the woods.

He was slightly hypothermic and evaluated by medical personnel before heading home with his family. The Maine Warden Service would like to thank the agencies and volunteer search and rescue personnel for the great teamwork tonight in locating Mr. Kittle.