FRIENDS OF Pisgah, INC.



Update

F.O.P. Newsletter, Summer 2009, V. 23, No. 2

From the President

Greetings. As I sit here at my kitchen table, gazing out on a lovely pastoral scene of cows strolling across green fields while warm breezes float through the door, it feels as though summer has arrived. Though I do recognize this is subject to change, quickly at that! Just a few days ago, we had a frost and more recently a record high temperature. However, I hope folks are able to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather, whenever it comes, if only for a few moments.

This is also that time of year when the bugs descend upon us. But there are enough ways, for the most part, to co-exist with them! I have found it very helpful to have "dedicated" bug clothing that is sprayed with a deterrent like Cutters' Lemon Eucalyptus insect repellent. Light weight, long sleeved, breathable clothing is also helpful, especially if you know you will be stopping periodically. If you can keep moving, you can usually stay ahead of the bugs, until the deer flies come. Then a hat with a visor helps. I have found the greatest bug deterrent is the rain! With warm temperatures and the right clothing, traveling in Pisgah in the rain is beautiful. The sounds, smells and intensities of color, all add to a wonderful outdoor excursion. (I also recommend gardening in the rain. Besides sending the bugs running for cover, the soil is perfect for planting and pulling.) One other note on bugs, when the weather gets hot and people head for a swimming hole, remember that whatever you put on your skin, bug juice, sunscreen, lotions, etc., most of it comes off in the water. Please keep this in mind for the health of the ecosystem. When you use clothing to protect yourself from the bugs and sun, it's an easy matter of leaving such products on the shore.

Well, it's been a busy Spring for Pisgah activities. We added several extra work days in the Park to deal with ice storm damage and had a great turn-out of willing and able folks to help with the extensive clean-up. It was a wonderful way to connect with people who use and support the Park. We would have been hard pressed to get all the work done without the extra help. Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!

The Management Plan for Pisgah State Park is on-going with regularly scheduled meetings of both the Technical Team and the Steering Committee. At this point in the process, the Tech Team members are presenting information on a particular subject, such as forest cover, wildlife habitat, trails and recreation, to the rest of the Tech Team which in turn, presents at the next Steering Commeeting. Just this morning, I was out on the Davis Hill and Hubbard Hill Trails with David Moon of Ashuelot Valley Environmental Observatory [AVEO], assisting in surveying for invasive plants in Pisgah, using a protocol developed by Moon and Brett Thelen of AVEO, a member of the Tech Team. The Steering Committee then takes the information presented by the Tech Team to create a working document for managing Pisgah.

The most recent Steering Committee meeting had a special presentation on the history of the Friends of Pisgah, a great collaborative of FOP Council members Laurel Powell, John Summers and Ginny Knapp. The Steering Committee is the place where the public is invited and encouraged to attend, with time given at the end of each session for public comment. The next Steering Committee meeting is June 8th, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Antioch N.E. Graduate School, in Keene. Pisgah also had the great distinction of being the subject matter for a documentary film shown at the Colonial Theatre on Sunday May 17th, "Pisgah: A Place Apart". The attendance was very good and the film was well received. Copies will be available for loan at the Keene library and from the FOP as well as for sale at the Historical Society of Cheshire County.

These are just some of the events that have taken place since our last Update edition, so read on, get inspired and involved, and become part of the wonderful community of support for Pisgah State Park! Feel free to contact me and get out there and enjoy this incredible resource we have! Cheers,

Kathy Thatcher

Getting Around On Foot, Snowshoe or Cross Country Skis in Pisgah – Part III

For those of you looking for an interesting hike or ski, etc., you might peruse the Park maps (summer and winter editions) and make a guess. We have published some information on hiking trails in the last two issues of the Update. We provide another short description in this issue. A reminder – In addition to the trails listed on the official Park maps, hiking in Pisgah has periodically been mentioned in hiking books about New England and the northeast, e.g. see the Fall 2008 and Winter 2009 Updates for a list of such books and our hiking reports.

The Lily Pond Trail

I thought this might be as good a time as any to introduce the Lily Pond Trail to those of you have yet to travel along it. It can be a challenge when the bugs are in full swing, but it is such a beautiful path, I decided to go for it. I just came back from walking it in the rain and it was very manageable. Just don't linger anywhere for long, and you can always use bug juice... The most direct access to the trail is from the Horseshoe Parking lot. The trek should take about one and a half to two hours. Head down the trail from the parking lot to the Old Chesterfield Road Trail. Go left onto Old Chesterfield Rd., past the Reservoir Trail on your right and in 10 to 15 minutes you come to the Lily Pond Trail on the right. The trail marker is a yellow diamond and is approximately one mile long. After a short distance on the trail, you will come to a pond which will require a little hillside travel, just to the right of the pond. You will travel over a stream into a lovely grotto of moss covered boulders and ferns to your right, obvious signs of the presence of water. The trail is a wonderful meandering, walk through a rolling landscape. At this time of year you will be greeted with a variety of bird song. I was treated to a conversation of Hermit Thrush, their ethereal song, floating through the woods. As I got closer to Lily Pond, the trail led me through a beautiful, green carpet of notched, three-leafed clover-like plants, club moss, bunch berry, wintergreen and partridge berry spread out under blueberry bushes. I was greeted by the deep call of a bull frog as the Pond opened before me. There is a lovely point you can wander out to, that even provides the perfect rock to sit upon. There was enough of a breeze that the bugs were not an issue. Beaver lodges are scattered about and you might catch a glimpse of some ducks passing through, or perhaps even a heron. Heading back onto the main trail, you will pass through Hobble Bush and blueberry as you make your way to the end of the Lily Pond. At that particular point, to the right of the trail, there is a grand display of "carvings" by a Pileated Woodpecker. I did see and hear a Downy, but only saw the workmanship of the Pileated. As you continue along the path, you will loop around bogs and vernal pools with lush groupings of ferns. The rolling trail will lead you through a beautiful beech forest, giant boulders and rocks, adding to the striking surroundings. Another small pond will appear on the right, with fresh beaver activity in evidence. An abundance of wild sarsaparilla will accompany you along the trail to yet another, smaller pond, that upon further inspection is linked by a lovely, rocky stream to the previous pond. At the end of the pond you will come to a bridge where the Lily Pond Trail ends as it connects with the North Ponds Trail. At this point you will head left to begin to make your way back to the Old Chesterfield Road Trail. For a short distance you will be following the green rectangular trail marker of the North Ponds Trail. The landscape will change to heavier hemlock cover as you travel along a stream to your right. Gradually the stream will open into a large wetland, just before you arrive back at the Old Chesterfield Road Trail. Turn left, heading back to where you picked up the Lily Pond Trail, as you make your way back to the parking lot. Kathy Thatcher

A Special Invitation to You to Check out the Visitor Center

The Friends of Pisgah, Inc. has again budgeted money to staff the Pisgah State Park Visitor Center for the summer and fall weekends of 2009. As you know, state staffing at Pisgah Park has been drastically reduced in recent years. FOP has stepped in to fill the gap for the past several years. We are fortunate to have the able assistance of Laurel Powell again this year. Laurel has been most helpful in working with visitors while continuing her management of our FOP historical collection. She will be at the Visitor Center most Saturdays, Sundays and Monday holidays from 11am to 4pm during the summer and early fall. Laurel will be greeting all visitors, offering assistance, giving tours of the post and beam house & barn and gathering stories and memories. The museum is continually improving with added donated items and exhibits.

Please come, visit, and enjoy Pisgah's seasonal beauty and unique history. Feel free to contact Laurel at 603-336-7479 or lpowellbks@comcast.net to arrange special appointments and tours. The Visitor Center is located at 520 Old Chesterfield Road, Winchester. Phones at the Visitor Center are staffed by chance on weekdays but an answering machine is available. Phones are not staffed at all on weekends or holidays. Please use Laurel's home phone or email in Hinsdale to make contacts for weekend activity.

Member Dues Need to be Paid Now

Member dues for 2009 were due at the first of the year. If you have not paid your 2009 member dues or wish to join, please use the form on the last page and send in your renewal or new application now. NOTE: If you have not paid, the letters NP appear on your label!

Around the Park with the Friends

Think Little

Got an interesting invention or unique thought? In the 19th & 20th century, you might have contacted the Arthur D. Little Research Co. to test out your idea. For well over 120 years this pioneering company was synonymous with technological ingenuity and innovative thinking. Their motto was, "Huge advances & inventions grow from little ideas." The history of the Little Research Co. has a fascinating chapter that is set in a secluded spot by Kilburn Pond in Hinsdale, NH during 1958 to 1967.

Nestled at the northern end of Kilburn Pond near the boundaries of Pisgah State Park, the Hinsdale Town Forest and Winchester a trail (Little Trail) leads to some odd and intriguing artifacts. Hikers, skiers and hunters wonder what was once there? Have you? In the late 1950s, the Arthur D. Little Research Company whose main offices were in Cambridge, MA was commissioned to study adequate storage magazines for various explosives. This small project had been contracted by private companies that were interested in mining and excavation work

The Little Company needed to look for a site that was within a 100 mile radius of their home base in Massachusetts. They studied topographic maps looking for open places without houses or busy public roads nearby. They considered a place in Stoddard, NH but chose the wilderness of Pisgah. At this time, the State of NH had not established Pisgah State Park. Wakefield Dort of Chesterfield leased some land to Little in the fall of 1958. The leased land had already been logged and a few buildings built (a horse shed, chopper's cabin for housing and an 8' x 12' building with a stove). Another feature of the area that appealed to Little was an established system of roads made by loggers plus access to the town of Hinsdale water supply.

Pisgah was a perfect fit! George White of Chesterfield was hired and worked for Little from 1958 to 1960. His son, Clifford, "Skip", joined him after a tour of duty in the army. Upon George's death in 1960, Skip continued his father's work with his cousin, Newton Darling.

The road leading to the site is off Kilburn Trail near the wooden bridge heading up to the Kilburn Loop and Pisgah Ridge Trail. If you hike the trails on the north end of Kilburn Pond today you will see some remains of the buildings and magazines hidden in the young forest. Three gates at various locations were erected for safety reasons. Signs on the trees warned of danger and a wire fence surrounded the site. The first gate was down on Route 63 and Gate No. 2 was just past the pond and the bridge. As you enter this area you will occasionally notice some of the cement foundations that supported a collection of buildings clustered beneath the hemlocks. They were: a grinding station to prepare chemical explosives like ammonium nitrate, a power generator storage shed, an open storage shed for materials such as lumber, two protective structures or bunkers used as observation posts when a blasting experiment was occurring. An Army Deuce and a half (two and ½) ton vehicle was adapted so that the truck chassis could be used for transporting things around while the body became a machine shop with lathes, drill presses, and all sorts of tools, and cement magazines to keep caps separate from the ammunition. Most obvious to hikers now-a-days are the cement walls woven with rebar or reinforcing rod. These powder magazines had been used for testing explosives. Today pine and birch trees are growing around the walls.

When all the research had been completed at this site, the buildings were either sold, moved or torn down. One building did survive. The Kilburn Building, the heated storage house, was sold and is now situated on the Hickey, now Chickering, property on Route 63 north of the Kilburn Trailhead (toward Chesterfield). It is in a field behind the white farmhouse on the left hand side of the road. George White had named this building "Kilburn Park" following the theme of the Little's Cambridge office called "Acorn Park". George made a sign for this and it is now displayed in the FOP Museum in Winchester. You may notice wires on the ground as you hike up the Kilburn Trail. These were used for electric power and an on site telephone/intercom system The company had to lay the shielded cable wire on the ground because the wind played havoc with the wires. Light sockets can still be seen on a few trees.

Often metal work that was needed was commissioned from Little in Cambridge but it was handier to use local business such as the Streeter Machine Shop on Main Street in Hinsdale. David Freitas remembers delivering new or repaired metal pieces for his step-father, welder Russell Mears, owner of the shop. Taylor Hardware in Hinsdale and Smead Lumber in Vernon provided necessary supplies. Frank Hubner plowed the roads in the winter with a bulldozer with Bill Mitchell & "Bub" Hubner stationed on the back sanding as they moved. Whitcomb of Brattleboro delivered cement.

Come to the Visitor Center this summer to view the new exhibit of the Arthur D. Little Research Company. Skip White has donated photographs, a "Danger" sign, "the Little paper" and a souvenir button to the Friends of Pisgah. A model of the work area will give you a visual sense of this intriguing place. Skip has agreed to lead additional hikes so look at our monthly posters and bulletins in local newspapers for the next historical hike.

Laurel Powell FOP- Historian

603-336-7479 lpowellbks@comcast.net

Spring 2009 Trail Maintenance

On <u>April 11, 2009</u>, a record group of volunteers from towns all around the region, including Northfield, MA arrived at the Kilburn Trailhead to help with the monthly trail work and hike. After a discussion of what trails were most in need, it was decided that the group would split into three groups. (This turnout was fantastic and greatly appreciated!) One pack of volunteers left to tackle the eastern side of Kilburn. Another hopped into a truck and started at the southern tip of the Kilburn Loop near the Waterworks in Hinsdale and worked north on the western side of the loop. The third group cleared the western side of the Kilburn Loop and worked south until meeting the second group.

It was a cool, spring day, ideal for brush work. The second group stopped at the second of two small bridges and did a variety of jobs. A large tree had fallen into the water and was causing the flow of the water under the bridge to rise dangerously close to the bottom of the bridge. Several volunteers cut up and gently tugged the tree out of the water. Others picked up brush and raked the rocks which had washed onto the trail on the north side of the bridge. The group then continued up the western side of the lake nailing blue diamond markers to the trees at regular intervals clearing brush as they went.

Sunday, April 19, 2009 – two groups split – one group cleared to the A.D. Little explosives site in preparation for the April 26th A.D. Little story circle hike. The other group cleared Pisgah Ridge trail from the Kilburn connector all the way to Baker Pond then Davis Hill trail back to Kilburn Trailhead.

<u>Saturday, May 2, 2009</u> - Friends of Pisgah volunteers met with the Chesterfield Conservation Commission members at the Kilburn Trailhead. Two groups headed out to clear the trail toward Mount Wantastiquet. One group cleared from Kilburn Trailhead over Bear Mountain to Plain Road observing spring flowers such as trillium. The second group started at the Plain Road Trailhead and cleared up Daniels Mountain.

<u>Saturday, May 9, 2009</u> – FOP volunteers met once again at the Kilburn Trailhead. We cleared Pisgah Ridge trail from the Kilburn connector through the Pisgah Reservoir overlook down to the "elephant rock".

The assistance of so many volunteers is greatly appreciated. Photos of some of you are printed on the following pages. This spring's volunteer group was clearly the largest we have had in years. FOP enjoyed your assistance and we hope you had a great time working on behalf of Pisgah Park.

John Hudachek & Ginny Knapp

PISGAH: A PLACE APART

On Sunday, May 17 at 3:00 PM, the premiere of the film, *PISGAH: A PLACE APART*, a documentary on Pisgah's history compiled as part of the Oral History Project by the Monadnock Institute of Nature, Place and Culture of Franklin Pierce University was held at the Colonial Theatre in Keene to a full house. The mixed crowd enthusiastically received the project's intent — to save and share the stories of Pisgah told by those who lived it! Fred and Janet Doolittle (see photo page 5), past residents of the Doolittle homestead and farm on Old Chesterfield Road in Winchester and Walt Calkins whose family, the Whittemores, lived farther down the road told stories about their lives and their personal reaction to the State's actions to take their land for a park. Walt's adventuresome spirit shone through as he described unusual tales of the area. Harry Prouty's legends documented his young life as a fisherman, hunter, nature enthusiast and logger learning much from his elders. Bill Mitchell and John Summers, members of the volunteer group Friends of Pisgah, Inc. (FOP) regaled watchers with the early history of the Park and the FOP's accomplishments in assisting the State to create a wilderness state park. Tom Wessels and David Frost's informational insights about the Park's logging history, the scientific laboratory within Harvard Forest and the pockets of old growth forest are testament to the unique features of the place. The stories were poignant revealing the many layers of emotions connected to this place we call Pisgah.

The Friends of Pisgah, Inc, received a complimentary copy of the film for their contributions. This copy will be available to borrow for your viewing pleasure. Please stop in to the Visitor Center on 520 Old Chesterfield Road in Winchester to borrow it. Stop in and see either Norma Reppucci during the week or Laurel Powell during the weekend. The libraries in Hinsdale, Winchester, Chesterfield and Keene have the film in their collections as well. The DVD is also on sale at Toadstool Bookstore and the Historical Society of Cheshire County on Main St in Keene.

For more information about the making of this film or any other projects in the <u>Reflection Series</u> contact John Harris at <u>harrisjr@franklinpierce.edu</u> or the Keene Public Library.



Fred & Janet Doolittle at Pisgah Movie Premiere



Laurel Powell with Ice Harvesting Tools



Story Circle Group at A. D. Little Site



Early Crowd at Ice Harvesting Story Circle, Winchester



Hikers for Story Circle at A. D. Little Site



Group at Kilburn Pond on A. D. Little Story Circle Hike



On the Way to Pisgah Ridge



Chris Montgomery & Ginny Knapp at Ice Harvest Story
Circle



John Hudachek with Ice Cutting Saw



Display of FOP Activities Used at Story Circles and at Post Movie Reception at Historical Society of Cheshire County

(Photos on the preceding page and this page courtesy of Ellen Edson, JoAnn Perlowski, or Matt Donachie)

Future Treks with FOP

Keep your eyes open for our postings at trail heads and around towns as well as in local newspapers, for planned excursions and events. If you are interested in a day at the Reservoir, put July 18th, New Hampshire Trails Day on your calendar. There will be a repeat performance of last year's excursion, which was such a great success. Details to be worked out, but once again, access to the Reservoir for an "on-the -water" experience is planned for the 18th...Have a great summer! And don't hesitate to contact me with questions or comments.

Kathy Thatcher

363-4482 or ktthatcher@gmail.com

History of Friends of Pisgah

Major Accomplishments and Contributions to Pisgah State Park – 1986 to Present

<u>December 16, 1986</u> - An informal group wrote Wilbur LaPage, Director of Parks, to accept the name "Friends of Pisgah" and recognize the group as the official Friends' Group. Mr. LaPage came down to meet with Friends and was impressed with their involvement. The group continues working on a draft management plan for Pisgah Park.

<u>September 7, 1987</u> - In response to a request by the Director of Parks and Recreation, Wilbur LaPage, a group known as the Friends of Pisgah is formed and registered with the State of New Hampshire. FOP has several committees including Education, Public Relations, Trails, History & Archaeology, Membership, & Newsletter. They meet on a monthly basis to "plan, protect and develop Pisgah Park".

The next section relates primarily to trails and signage, roads and parking lots, bricks and mortar, and to acquisitions of property.

<u>April 27, 1987</u> -The Friends of Pisgah purchased the Stone Mills property on the northeast periphery of the park in Chesterfield through the use of a bank loan for \$90,000 even though Director LaPage states that there was little possibility that the State would purchase the property. This action is taken to prevent a developer from building houses on the ridge along the park. Friends acted as a holder to protect land from being developed. <u>June 23, 1988</u> – Stone Mill property is sold by Friends of Pisgah to the State of New Hampshire thus adding 177 acres of land to the Park.

Throughout the years from 1986 - Interior work

1988 – A sample of projects undertaken working with the State were:
Nine gates are installed to help control interior use.
10 acres white stand improvement
3 acres improved for wildlife habitat
Beale's Road improvement
Remove firewood from Stone Mill property
Trail and overlook site work on Beale's Knob

<u>February 1989-</u> The initial Reservoir Trailhead on Rt. 119 to the upper Reservoir Parking Lot in Ashuelot was deemed dangerous. Construction of the new Rt. 119 Trailhead and parking lot was initiated.

Wakefield Dort donated his family's land in Hinsdale to the State and some to FOP. The location of Dort's property includes the area known as the Kilburn Trailhead. This parcel would replace a right-a-way with a safe parking lot and trailhead. October 1989 - The State dynamited the ledges and provided the gravel so that John Summers could build the causeway, parking lot and trailhead. 1990 NH State Park & Recreation rated the Dort purchase as their 2nd most important priority for land acquisition for the NH State Parks.

<u>Throughout 1996</u> & into 1999- Construction of 1830's post and beam cape as a replication of a farmhouse typical of the time period for the Pisgah State Park Headquarters and Ranger Station with handicapped accessible restrooms.

<u>Throughout 1999 & into 2005</u> - Reconstruction of a historic post and beam barn from the Westmoreland County Facility given to FOP by the State of NH. The barn was dismantled, moved to Winchester and reconstructed by Timber Guild, many volunteers and local trades people.

<u>From 1988</u> - Conception and construction of the Wantastiquet - Monadnock Greenway, a system of 27 miles of Greenway Trails from the Connecticut River to Pisgah State Park. It creates a wildlife corridor and non-motorized trail system. The Greenway will eventually reach Monadnock State Park. The construction of trailheads and parking lots (Old Mountain Road in Hinsdale & Plain Road in Hinsdale) were established with monies from grants and collaborate work with the Chesterfield & Hinsdale Conservation Commissions.

<u>From 1994</u> - the State of NH requested the formation of the Rails to Trails Advisory Committee as the lead coordinating agency in the conversion of 76 miles of abandoned rail line in Cheshire County. FOP participates and is instrumental in the Committee's work

<u>Throughout the years</u> - grading and repair of interior roads has been done by John Summers and Cliff Struthers using their own equipment.

October 24, 1988 – Friends of Pisgah is chosen to receive the "Governor's Award" by the Russell B. Tobey Awards Committee. In the words of Wilbur LaPage, "Rarely has a citizen's group done more for the protection of our state park lands. Your willingness to borrow money to buy land and to give up your time to help us plan, protect and develop Pisgah State Park is a model we are immensely proud of. Congratulations and don't stop now!" And we haven't! *Friends of Pisgah, Inc. May 11, 2009*

Thank You All for Your Continued Help

Our Council members are quite strongly engaged in activities supporting the Park. The following folks, not FOP Executive Council members, participated in our activities since the first of the year. We appreciate your efforts. If for some reason I have left anyone off this list I apologize. I have been very busy recovering from surgery and may have missed some deserving folks. Jon Thatcher, Ellen Edson, Patty Hudachek, Nancy Miller, Iva Woods, Ed Fletcher, Jeff Scott, Secord Family of Winchester, Meg Conant, Neil Jenness & Audrey Ericson of Chesterfield Historical Society, Betsy and Ed Skutnik, Harry Prouty, Gordon Schofield, Skip White, Marguerite Roberts, Fred and Janet Doolittle, JoAnn and Tony Perlowski, Marty Summers, Tom Duston, Lynne Borofsky, Steve Fisher, Jeff Newcomer, Chris Montgomery, Karl Pelletier, Amanda Barnard, Bob Barnard, Tim Toussaint, Doug Gaudet, Jessie Palmer, Mark Meany, Sarah Bockus, Mark, Joan, Julia, Martha Donachie, Gerry Goslant., Kim Nilsen and Gil Cameron.

Update: Copyright 2009 Friends of Pisgah, Inc. No reproduction without written permission. Editor: Matt Donachie (PO Box 11, Winchester, NH 03470) (603/239-6590) (e-mail: mattd1932@myfairpoint.net)

Friends of Pisgah, Inc.		
PO Box 134 Chesterfield, NH 03443-0134		
Chesterneid, NH 03443-0134		
First Class Mail		
Please use the form below and send to the address sho	own if you wish to join FOP renew	mambarshin or give one as a gift
The Friends of Pisgah maintain a nominal dues structure		
possible to join. Over half of the student/single/family d		
notice, as well as for the fine food at the picnic. Dues are	as follows: student - \$10, single - \$1	
Cut here		
Date:	<u>Category</u>	Willing to Assist On Committee
	(Check applicable boxes)	<u>for:</u>
Name(s):	♦ New	♦ Annual Picnic
Address:	♦ Renewal	♦ Educational Programs
	♦ Gift	♦ History/Archaeology
	♦ Student (\$10.00)	♦ Membership
Phone:(Home)	♦ Single (\$15.00)	♦ Newsletter Articles
Phone:(Work)	♦ Family (\$20.00/address)	♦ Planning & Strategy
E-mail:	♦ Group (\$30.00)	♦ Fund Raising
Questions? Call Kathy Thatcher (602 262 4492)	◊ Donation \$	♦ Public Relations/Park Info
Questions? Call Kathy Thatcher (603-363-4482) or Matt Donachie (603-239-6590)		♦ Rails to Trails Advisory
of what Dollachie (003-237-0370)	Name/Address of gift giver	♦ Trails/Maintenance
Sand form and chack to:		♦ Wantastiquet-Monadnock

8 FOP Newsletter Summer 2009

Greenway

Other _____

Send form and check to:

Chesterfield, NH 03443-0134

Friends of Pisgah, Inc.

PO Box 134