

APRIL 2010

What a difference a month makes. We have gone from winter to spring in the blink of an eye. We had that heavy snow in late February, but little since. Lots of rain, though. Lots! Plus some pretty amazing warm temperatures. So warm, in fact, the ice went out on the pond already, a full 3 weeks before usual. And, as usual, tadpoles swimming about the same day the ice went out. Pretty amazing. A few piles of snow remain in the shady spaces, but we don't expect they'll be there for long.

We've put a blank paged book out for our guests recently entitled "Awesome Amazing Things." What is an awesome amazing thing to you? What makes you say, "Wow!?" What brings an instant smile to your face? Tadpoles swimming about the pond the day the ice goes out is an awesome amazing thing! We encourage you to add your own awesome amazing things.

We hosted a wonderful yoga retreat the last weekend in March, the second one for that month. Due to some last minute "circumstances beyond control" there were 3 fewer people than expected. But the 5 ladies who were here had a great time. Lots of yoga (Kundalini, Restorative, Ananda); lots of free time for hiking and massages; a session on Trager; and two-thirds of a jigsaw puzzle put together! The weather was great, the food yummy, and several new friends were made. The next yoga retreat sponsored by Star Barn Yoga is scheduled for the third weekend in September. Other scheduled events includes "Autumn Sanctuary" September 30-Oct 3 this year, and "Heart Connections" February 30-6, 2011, both led by Patty Geiger of Stepping Up and Out (<http://www.steppingupandout.com/>) .

The fourth Sunday in March is always Maple Sunday, when sap houses host "open houses" for lovers of maple syrup to make their yearly purchases and see the process first hand how the syrup is made. Because we had such an early run with the sap (warmer than usual temps, both day and night) the end totals were down. Out of the 2300 trees tapped on ours and the neighboring property only 156 gallons of syrup were made. Maple syrup producers all over the state have struggled the last few years because conditions just haven't been ideal and there is precious little anyone can do about the weather! But there are still some bottles left in the coffers – get yours before it's all gone!

Time to do some spring cleaning at Star Barn. We always want to have things as fresh and clean as possible for our guests. Curtains washed and line dried. Doilies and table covers, too. Gardens raked out and weeded; outdoor furniture cleaned and set up. Windows washed, both inside and out – we want to be sure you have the clearest view of "our" mountains and trees; and if per chance the elusive moose walks by, we want you to see every hair on his chinny-chin-chin! If you are thinking of coming to Maine to fish or hike or just get away from it all, give us a call to reserve one of our comfy-cozy rooms. We'll make it worth your while - we are ready for your visit!

Enjoy your spring and with it the promise of summer!
Ginni and David Robie