**SLA Annual Conference Preliminary Notes and Information.**

This information will be in your registration packet, but I thought it helpful to have it now.

June 18th Registration will be held at *The Family Dog Restaurant* in Orono from 6:00-8:00 PM (<https://www.thefamilydogorono.com>) It is a small but well-loved eatery that specializes in Burgers, Sandwiches, and Gourmet Hot Dogs. For those wishing different fare the restaurants below are within walking distance of Registration.

*Woodman’s* (<https://www.woodmansbarandgrill.com>) More upscale great single malts

*Thai Orchid* (<https://thaiorchidme.com/about>) Dine in or take out. Good Thai and Asian Cuisine.

*Pat’s Pizza* is an Orono landmark and tradition. (<http://www.patspizzaorono.com>)

*Tacorita* (https://thetacorita.com)

Also in Orono but *not* in walking distance from *The Family Dog* :

*Orono House of Pizza,* (<https://oronohouseofpizza.com/29196>) Some prefer it to Pat’s.

*Governors Restaurant,* ( <https://www.governorsrestaurant.com>) Known for large portions not likely to fascinate James Beard devotees.

Currently these establishments are open on Tuesday evening. *The Family Dog* is a sure thing but if you want a reservation at one of the other places it is best to make a it in advance as there is a major shortage of hospitality workers in Maine, a condition exacerbated by the demand for workers in major tourist regions, so some food places may be short staffed or even closed on a Tuesday. At registration we’ll have a list of dining choices in Bangor. There is no public transportation between Orono and Bangor except during the day, so a car or a cab will be required.

Bangor and Old Town which are short drives have several other restaurants and a full list will be in the registration information.

Places to visit on the free afternoon or to add to the beginning or end of your visit.

**Acadia National Park. (https://www.nps.gov/acad/index.htm** ) Stunning seascapes and mountains that rise from the shore are only a small part of this National Park. The Schoodic Peninsula and the rest of Acadia are national treasures. It is busy in June, and you should expect to take 90 minutes to get to either Northeast Harbor or Bar Harbor. Driving to the top of Cadillac Mountain now requires reservations. If this is on your list book now.

**Orono Bog Walk.** A short drive toward Bangor (<https://umaine.edu/oronobogwalk/>)

**Leonard’s Mill** This is a very cool museum with great exhibits, many active working demonstrations ,but call ahead to see what might be going on. (<https://www.maineforestandloggingmuseum.org/exhibits/leonards-mills-2/>)

**Sunkhaze Meadows Wildlife Refuge** a short drive from campus with lots of trails. (<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/sunkhaze-meadows>)

**Bangor** is a short drive and has become quite a hot spot for food, shopping, cultural events, and sightseeing. In addition to the Stephen King Tours **The Bangor Historical Society** has great summer evening programs. (https://www.bangorhistoricalsociety.org)

**Belfast** A little less than an hour from campus this small city has transformed itself from the poultry slaughtering capital of the world into a very livable community that includes artists, artisans, ship building and repair. There are excellent restaurants of all kinds, plenty of fine shops and *Colburns* The Oldest Shoe Store in America. Pedestrian and bike friendly with beautiful accessible trails. On a nice day you can’t beat it.

***Greenville,*** about a 90-minute ride north from Orono,sits at the foot of Moosehead lake the largest lake contained in one state east of the Mississippi River. See *The Katahdin* which we call *The Kate*, the last steamship still cruising on the lake. The village has seen a recent boost in new shops, restaurants, and is one of Maine’s most picturesque. (If we had time I’d rent a bus and take you another hour and a half to our camp on the north end of the Lake at Seboomook Landing—but you’d need to know the last 30 miles are on a dirt road.) The area is often mentioned in Thoreau’s works on the Maine Woods.

**On Campus:**

**The Hudson Museum.** A five-minute walk from the conference room and well worth it. (<https://umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum/>) The museum is located in the Collins Center for the Arts. Sadly, no events are scheduled at the Center during the conference.

**Page Farm and Home Museum.** (<https://umaine.edu/pagefarm/>) If anyone wants to visit outside the normal hours let me know. It is also a five-minute walk.

**Emera Astronomy Center. (** <https://astro.umaine.edu/music-shows/>**).** During the recent solar eclipse the observatory’s Director Shawn Laatch and several Graduate Students participated with NASA in a project to film the continuous path of totality. If anyone is interested in visiting the observatory at night please let me know ASAP as I *may* be able to arrange that. It’s a ten-minute walk from the conference room.

**How To Get To Orono**

**Par Avion**: I live forty-five minutes south of the airport and almost an hour from campus so if you are flying into *Bangor International Airport* and need a ride to campus please let me know at the earliest possible moment. It is often neither particularly convenient or soft on the wallet to fly to Bangor but it is getting better. *Portland Jetport* has many more options and is a little over two hours away by car. Portland is also a great city—especially for foodies and music land art lovers.

**By Bus**: Express Service from Concord Trailways to Bangor is available from Boston and Portland. Some busses also come to campus but not all.

**Rail** is *not* available.

Looking forward to seeing so many old friends and to making new ones next month.

If you need any clarifications or have questions be sure to email me.

Bruce