

## Maine IAT Virtual Tour Update! July 15 – October 1, 2020

Members of Maine State DKG were invited to participate in the Maine International Appalachian Trail Virtual Hike in July. Since COVID did not allow hikers to venture too far from their homes to hike the 138 miles of the IAT in Maine, the trail group felt the virtual hike would be good advertisement for our trails in northern Maine. Rachelle Tome (Gamma) had seen a virtual hike sponsored by another DKG state and suggested we in Maine State create one of our own. Since I am a member of both organizations, I felt this would be a good way to offer the hike to Maine DKG members, as well as others who enjoy hiking. The virtual hike attracted hikers from many cities in Maine, as well as New York, California, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and even Quebec!

As of October 1, 45 people participated in the hike. 21 hikers finished the 138 miles. As a group, we hiked over 5,500 miles from Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument to Morocco, the length of the IAT. Seven members from Maine State participated in the hike. Completing all 138 miles were Teresa Brzustowisz (Omicron), Nancy Grant (Omicron), Jean Roy (Mu), and Elaine Hendrickson (Delta). Working really hard to complete the mileage were Priscilla McFarland (Theta), Nancy Ruark (Gamma), and Rachelle Tome (Gamma). All the participants will be awarded an IAT pin and bookmark. Those completing over half of the 138 miles will also receive a free membership in the IAT Maine for the rest of the fiscal year. And the finishers will receive a special IAT baseball cap, as well. Congratulations to all of our members who participated! You will also receive a special certificate from Maine State DKG!  
Submitted by Elaine Hendrickson



Jean Roy on one of her many daily hikes. Walking the 138 virtual miles of the Maine IAT helped Jean recover from knee surgery earlier this year.



Priscilla McFarland hiking the Debsconeag Trails to be ready for the Fall Foliage Tour in early October.