

## Wessels to Discuss the Natural & Cultural History of Acadia

**SOUTHWEST HARBOR** – Author, Tom Wessels, will be at the Southwest Harbor Public Library, Tuesday evening, May 23, 5:30 to discuss his book, *Granite, Fire, & Fog: The Natural and Cultural History of Acadia*. Wessels will discuss the unique ecology and natural history of Mount Desert Island, the factors that created it, and how it all relates to the Island's cultural history.

Mount Desert Island had a profound impact on Wessels' professional career, starting with his first visit in January 1973 when he was a senior at the University of New Hampshire. His understanding of the Island has grown with his work as an educator and author.

*Granite, Fire & Fog* is beautifully illustrated and invites readers to investigate the remarkable natural history of MDI, along with its unique cultural story. This account of nature, terrain, and human interaction with the landscape will delight those who like to hike these bald summits, ride along the carriage roads, or explore the Island's rugged shoreline. Wessels concludes his book with a guided tour of one of his favorite hikes, a ten mile loop that will acquaint the reader with the diverse ecosystem described throughout the book.

Wessels is an ecologist and professor emeritus at Antioch University New England where he founded the master's degree program in Conservation Biology. He is the author of numerous books including *Reading the Forested Landscape: A Natural History of New England*. Tom has conducted natural history, ecology, and sustainability workshops throughout the United States for more than three decades. He will have books available for sale and signing. For more information, call the Library at 244-7065.