

**Spring Hike**

# Following Spring from the Everglades to Mt. Washington

Dr. John Harris hikes a route from Edwin Way Teale's 1947 book

In 1947, naturalist Edwin Way Teale started in Florida and followed the spring season north to Maine. He wrote about what he saw in what became a best-selling book, *North with the Spring*. Sixty-five years later, Teale's spiritual descendent, John Harris, repeated the trip to see what those same landscapes revealed. His book, *Returning North with the Spring*, combines homage, reportage, and a deep consideration of the state of our planet in the light of climate change.

Dr. Harris, Projects Coordinator of Franklin Pierce's Monadnock Institute of Nature, Place and Culture, first read Teale's book in college and had always wanted to visit some of the places he mentioned. So he took four months to follow Teale's route, starting on February 21 in the Everglades and ending on June 21 atop Mt. Washington. "I tried at least once a week to be in the same spot as Teale on the

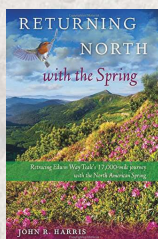
same date he was there," Harris explained. "He was a marvelous writer. It's nice to have such an eloquent text beside you when you travel."

Harris was not surprised to find terrain that had changed completely since 1947. "Teale visited Florida's Sanibel Island and saw wild pigs on the beach. Now that area is wall to wall hotels and condos," Harris points out.

But more frequently, he saw US Fish and Wildlife refuges that had been protected for decades and are untrampled and utterly gorgeous. "I hope readers will be inspired to visit these places for themselves and will also get involved in protecting them for the future," he says.

For now, Harris plans to stay at home. Like Teale, he keeps yearly records of the flora and fauna in his own area. Rather than travel afar, he plans to write about the beauty of his own New Hampshire back yard.

— Hillel Bromberg



**'I tried at least once a week to be in the same spot as Teale on the same date he was there.'**

**Mr. FPU**

# 8 MEN, 16 HEELS, 1 MR. FPU

Eight brave men confidently strode down the red carpet in platform heels, sporting business casual attire, in an all-male, beauty pageant-style competition, aimed at raising awareness about domestic violence and sexual assault on college campuses. At the end of the night, only one could take home the crown of Mr. FPU.

"I'm impressed on how confidently the guys pulled off walking in heels, even when some were a few shoe sizes too small for them," said SISTUH's member Lindsay Sweet '16.

Contestants were judged on three categories: Q&A, school spirit, and talent. They led Raven chants, recited an original poem in French and then translated to English, rapped, recited the alphabet backwards, performed a comedy skit, and much more.

But Ben Mead '17 swept the talent section with his beautiful guitar playing, soft words, and British accent, topping it all off with a dedication to his girlfriend.

Judges Gina Boulay, Rob Koch, Alex Marella '15, Derek Scalia '05, and Misty Start '11, MBA '17 were all impressed with each contestant's talent. Instead of objectifying participants, the judges scored contestants on how they would respond to real-life sexual or domestic violence questions.

"It's a fun way to get the word out about something serious that affects far too many people worldwide," said Mead '17.

The event was a combination of the White Ribbon Campaign and Walk a Mile in Her Shoes – both national efforts to take a stand against sexual assault.

In its second year, "the response to Mr. FPU has been incredible," said Sweet '16. "I hope this will become a fun tradition that SISTUHS will continue for many years to come."

As for the 2016 Mr. FPU, Mead '17 says he can't wait to tell the grandkids one day.

— Alyssa Borelli

**'It's a fun way to get the word out about something serious that affects far too many people'**

