



FOCUSED ON CONSERVING MAINE'S FORESTED LANDSCAPE

Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director

Archie Curtis, a fourth generation family farmer, viewed timber harvesting as his winter cash crop to be maintained by selective cutting and management. We are pleased to know that his forestry management practice is being continued and passed on to others. Oct. 2017

The Honorable Kenneth Curtis, Curtis Homestead Conservation Area land donor



Maine's forests were spectacularly beautiful last month. As I hiked through the woods in October I thought about the Trust's 412,000-acre service area, which is 69% forested, dominated by conifer and hardwood woodlands, lakes, and streams. These natural resources protect our region's water quality and wildlife habitat, provide recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, and support our state's wood products economies.

Since 1988, KLT's 1,070 members and supporters have conserved 5,770 acres, representing 1.5% of our service area's land. Our newest land conservation projects, 139 acres on Mount Pisgah and a 220-acre conservation easement on Egypt Pond in Vienna and Chesterville, will be completed soon, bringing KLT's conserved acres to over 6,000 acres! We are proud of our success to date: the properties we have conserved and that we take care of, our forty-three miles of trails, and the land stewardship ethic we promote.

Given our extensive service area, we also understand the importance of working with conservation partners who share an interest in our region's forests and the resources and functions they support. With that perspective in mind, we have helped to develop several initiatives and programs that promote private and public forestland conservation.

Strategic Land Conservation: KLT's directors identified ten priority conservation values and developed a GIS-based Conservation Plan using information from community open space and comprehensive plans. The plan informs and guides KLT's land acquisition and conservation easement priorities for the future, with the expansion of current conservation properties as a central theme. The 360-acre Rosmarin and Saunders Family Forest, near KLT's 100-acre Macdonald Woods and the 110-acre Readfield Town Forest, is a recent example. **Conservation Partnerships:** Local Wood WORKS and Kennebec Woodland Partnership are statewide and regional initiatives focused on a landscape approach to land conservation, energy conservation, and local wood economies. See the enclosed Local Wood WORKS brochure. **Inspiring the Next Generation: KLT's Summer Internship Program (page 3) and Sustainable Forestry Education Programs:** Since 2009, over 1,200 central Maine students, parents, and teachers have learned about sustainable forestry, land stewardship, careers in forestry, wildlife habitat, and local history at KLT's Curtis Homestead Conservation Area in Leeds.

Each of these initiatives promotes a land ethic that benefits our region's wildlife, water quality, communities, and local economies, and has impacts that go beyond KLT's 1.5% land conservation footprint.

Photograph: Ken Curtis, Curtis Homestead Conservation Area, October, 2003 ©Jym St.Pierre



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: WHY ACCREDITATION?

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Theresa Kerchner
Janie Matrisciano
Deb Sewall

Hello all,

I'm taking a little time away from stacking firewood to bring you up to date on the most recent KLT accomplishment – applying for national accreditation.

Almost two years ago, when we decided to apply for national accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, I truly expected the call for volunteers from the board to serve on the accreditation committee to be met with the sound of crickets. It was understandable - some people would rather undergo an IRS audit or a root canal than spend hours reviewing policies and land acquisition histories for compliance with prescribed standards. Imagine our surprise and delight when Kim Vandermeulen and Bob Marvinney both enthusiastically stepped to the plate! The committee, which also included Theresa and me, met every two to four weeks for close to eighteen months, and through Kim's remarkable sense of organization, Bob's institutional memory, and Theresa's irrepressible optimism, we finally submitted our application in September.



*Kim Vandermeulen, Vice President
signing KLT's accreditation application.*

So why all this effort? Accreditation is a method of standardizing land trust procedures. For us, the process also offered a valuable means of self-assessment. Did we have our house in order? Were the records on all of our fee titles and easements complete? Was our financial and legal paperwork appropriate? Did we have the proper policies in place? We tested ourselves throughout the application process and we were pleased to find a technically sound operation with only a few gaps in our documentation.

Thank you Kim and Bob, volunteers Donna Buck and Jane Davis, and the staff who worked quietly and tirelessly behind the scenes on this daunting project. And a special thanks to former KLT President Stan Eller who set the accreditation process as a priority for us while he was at the helm. As KLT approaches its thirtieth year of operation, we take great satisfaction in knowing that we have the systems in place to maintain our operations in a legally, financially, and ethically sound manner.

It's almost as satisfying as seeing that well-stacked pile of wood in the shed . . .

With deep appreciation,

President



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KLT INTERNS: FUTURE LEADERS

In August, after an impressive season of field and office work and research, Anna Hodgkins, Drew Perlmutter, and Jane Tekin completed their internships with KLT. Enclosed in this newsletter are copies of their summer research projects: Anna's Wakefield Wildlife Sanctuary brochure; Drew's knotweed research; and Jane's Local Wood Works brochure.

For information about KLT's internship program, visit www.tklt.org. We will begin recruitment for next summer in December, 2017.



Anna, Drew, and Jane. Photo: Brian Kent

Anna Hodgkins

I had an amazing summer working for KLT. Getting to be outside most days and being able to witness the actual, physical transformations that occurred due to our work was very rewarding. Our biggest task of the summer was creating the new trail on Mt. Pisgah, and it was extremely satisfying to return every week, put in the work, and watch the trail grow, knowing that we were making available a new stretch of beautiful woodlands for visitors to enjoy. In addition to trail work, while in the office we performed many tasks that helped us learn about what it takes to run a small non-profit. From basic office skills, to spreadsheets, to writing brochures, to grant proposals, we learned so much, and Theresa, Jean-Luc, and Kirsten were always

there and willing to help. Our individual research projects also provided us with the opportunity to delve into a subject of interest, mine being on the family and agricultural history of a pending KLT property. Overall, working for KLT was a great experience; this internship is an amazing opportunity to gain hands-on experience and to learn about sustainable forestry, conservation, wildlife, Maine's agricultural history, and much more.

Drew Perlmutter

My summer at KLT was the most gratifying experience I have had. It is easy to assume that working in conservation means long days in the field, building trails and monitoring for invasive species; however, this summer demonstrated that working in land conservation is above all multidisciplinary. I felt incredibly lucky to be able to call hiking and canoeing my "work" for the day. In addition to having a chance to explore the beautiful state of Maine in the summer, I now have a greater understanding of the work required to sustain a small non-profit, including knowledge of how to apply for grants (a skill that will be immensely valuable as I pursue a career in conservation). The opportunity to do my own research on effective removal of the invasive Japanese knotweed gave me a greater understanding of the work required to maintain the health of the land. I am so grateful for my time with KLT. I'm inspired by Theresa, Jean-Luc, and Kirsten, who are the hardest working and yet equally kind and patient people I have met. Their unwavering love for conservation has truly moved me, and I look forward to seeing all of the amazing things KLT does in the future. Thank you to all who made this summer possible.

Jane Tekin

Working at KLT this summer has positively changed my life in a number of ways, but I think what will have the most lasting impact on me is the experience of working with people who truly love what they do. From KLT's trio of almost superhuman employees to every land steward, volunteer, and partner I met during the summer, I felt united with them as part of a team because we held the same values and worked for the same cause: revitalizing humanity's relationship to the land. Despite the heat, the bugs, and the exhaustion, being a part of this community kept me focused on the bigger picture of giving the land back to the people. I found that nature is the gift that keeps on giving - as long as the trade is equal. I also learned a lot about equality. Living with the Spaldings allowed me to feel like a part of the tight-knit community of Wayne, where I realized that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. My life at college now is changed because of this experience. Working with KLT taught me that having values doesn't mean much until you live by those values in every aspect of your life. So now I've changed my major and started to volunteer in local communities. And when I get bogged down by the world of academia and its detachment from "real life," I think of the completed third trail at Mt. Pisgah, the future of Local Wood WORKS, even pulling those ornery invasives, and I smile. Thanks to Theresa, Jean-Luc, Kirsten, and all of KLT's supporters, especially Ken and Sue Spalding - people who live by their values every day - I am able to live by mine, and am overwhelmed with gratitude.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS ~ THANK YOU DONORS AND FOUNDATIONS

Includes tribute, Mount Pisgah, and Horseshoe Island donors. New members as of September 30, 2017.

Wendy Adams	Cindy Glidden	Jeffrey Orth and Jennifer Kam
Sue Bell	Carol Grandstaff	Elena Page
Cal and Carol Boston	Jerry Kathman and Liz Grubow	Kendrick and LouAnne Parker
Louis M. Botelho	Richard Guttmacher	Crit and Carol Perreten
M. Elaine Briggs	Susan, John, and Sarah Haile	Joe and Crystal Pietrowicz
Sarah Bullard	Mark Hanley	Doug Fontein and Cathy Reynolds
Gregory Burdick	Rev. Dr. Stephen Hastings	Dan and Diane Roketenetz
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Patricia Catsos	H.M. Dev. LLC	Robert Sinclair
David and Pam Cline	Mary Catherine and Jeffrey Krusling	Bill and Carole Slayton
Mary Grow	Justin LaFontaine	Amanda Dow-Smith & Richard Smith
Jim Coccia	Linda Lee	Sharon Treat
Dick Cook	Emily Longvall	Constance Trounstone
Catherine Coyne	James Mahon	Wini Turner
Sandy Dennis	Connie and Lefty McIntyre	Natalie and Andy Weise
Phyllis and Fran Durham	Jeffrey Moore	Dwight Whittaker
Karen and Fred Farber	Laura Murrer	Walter J. Wiacek
Raymond Trout and MaryAnn Fisher	Linda Norton	Wendy Winet
Gary Gerstenblith	Margaret O'Connor	Wright & Associates, P.A.
Richard and Teresa Gilbert	Office of Cornelia C. Viek, CPA	Tim and Nan Worsowicz
		The Zarkowers



June, 2017 KLT - Kennebec Valley Bicycle Club Pedal Tour at Sturtevant Farm Scenic Area in Fayette; Photograph: Jim Merrick

FOUNDATION SUPPORT ~ JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2017

Elmina B. Sewall Foundation	Kennebec Savings Bank Foundation
Elsie and Willian Viles Foundation	Land Trust Alliance Excellence Program
Farnsworth Fund of the Essex County Community Foundation	Silverseed Fund of the Maine Community Foundation
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High Valley Fund of the Maine Community Foundation	Onion Foundation
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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	

KLT NEWSLETTER SPONSOR





*Mount Pisgah Ledges Trail Crew
Photograph: Drew Perlmutter*

NOTES FROM THE STEWARDSHIP DESK

Jean-Luc Theriault, Stewardship Director

With the dedicated help of a group of volunteers, two new trails in Winthrop and Readfield have been built by the KLT Stewardship team. The addition of the Ledges Trail at the Mount Pisgah Conservation Area adds 1.4 miles to the existing Blueberry and Tower Trails (2 miles).

The 1.3-mile Beaver Pond Trail in the recently donated Rosmarin and Saunders Family Forest is just the start of a large trail network planned to connect with KLT's Macdonald Forest and the Readfield Town Forest.

Many thanks to all who volunteered their time to help create these trails, including Caroline Balano-Scott, Gary Cole, Suzanne Cole, Mitchell DeBlois, Anna Hodgkins, Andrew Killen, Jackson McPhedran, Drew Perlmutter, Jane Tekin, Howard Lake, Edward Lake, Silas Mohlar, Peter Nielsen, Denny Harnish, Jim Connors, Jed Davis, Ginger Jordan-Hillier, Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, Jim Perkins, Theresa Kerchner, Alyssa Thompson, Tom Danielson, Jerry Bley, Henry Whittemore, Andy Walsh, Bob Marvinney, and Scott Reiff and the Maine Prison Industries Program.

UPCOMING WINTER PROGRAMS...

Sustainable Balsam Fir Tipping and Wreath-Making Workshop

Ladd Recreation Center, Wayne
Saturday, December 2, 10:00 a.m.

Join Dave Fuller, Agriculture and Non-Timber Forest Products Professional with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, for a balsam fir tipping field program on how to tip sustainably, followed by an indoor wreath-making workshop. Dave will discuss how to identify balsam fir, proper tipping methods, and how to make a balsam fir wreath. Bring hand shears and light gloves. **\$5 KLT members, \$10 non-members. Space is limited. PREREGISTER by calling 377-2848.**

KLT Outing Club: Snowshoe

Holman Conservation Area, Litchfield
Friday, January 19, 9:30 a.m.

We are bringing back the KLT Outing Club! We'll be hosting Friday walks on a (mostly) monthly basis at one of our properties. Our first walk of 2018 will be a snowshoe at the Holman Conservation Area, in Litchfield. All ages are welcome, and we will have snowshoes available if you don't have your own pair. Bring skis and sleds! Free, no registration required.

Ninth Annual Family Winter Fun Day

Curtis Homestead Conservation Area, Leeds
Saturday, February 10, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Join KLT for an afternoon of winter fun at the Curtis Homestead Conservation Area. Bring your cross-country skis, snowshoes, and sleds and spend the afternoon exploring this wonderful conservation property! Hot chocolate and snacks will be served around a bonfire at the trailhead. Free, no registration required.



29TH ANNUAL MEETING AND TRI-SPORT CHALLENGE ~ AUGUST 20, 2017

**SPONSORED BY:
CRIBSTONE CAPITAL AND CAMP WINNEBAGO**

[Congratulations individual & relay team winners!](#)

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL:

Lauren Jacobs

MEN'S INDIVIDUAL:

Bouker Pool (2nd Consecutive Year)

UNDER 18 WINNER:

Clayton House

RELAY WINNERS:

Darcy Whittemore
Henry Whittemore
Cheryl Marvinney
Steve Monsulick

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH OUR OUTREACH,
EDUCATION, LANDS, AND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS**

SUMMER 2016 ~ FALL 2017

Zack Anderson, Jerry Bley, Sue Bell, Shawn Brewer, Michael Brown, Donna Buck, Harold Burnett, Ginny Coady, Gary Cole, Suzanne Cole, Cheri Cooledge, Steve Condon, Jim Connors, Tom Danielson, Elizabeth Davidson, Judy Davidson, Jane Davis, Jed and Fran Davis, Jeff Dehaven, Mary Denison, David Dennett and the Cobbossee Yacht Club, Daisy Dore, Jim and Muffy Floyd, Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, Ryan Frost, Sarah Fuller, Rich Garini, Ronn Gifford, Hannaford's of Winthrop and customers, Zach Harder, Thom Harnett, Denny Harnish, Anna Hodgkins, Glenn Hodgkins, Sherry Huber, Charlie Jacobs, Jeffrey Janell, Ginger Jordan-Hillier, Kevin Kane, Lisa Kane, Marty Keniston, Kennebec Savings Bank, Brian Kent, Edward Lake, Howard & Brenda Lake, Lakeside Lodge and Marina, Ken Laustsen, Amy Lesko, Michael Levey, Andy Lilienthal and Camp Winnebago, Jon Lund, Brent Mace, Maine Conservation Corps, Maine State Archives, Pat Maloney, Bob Marvinney, Jane Matrisciano, Jim Merrick and the Kennebec Valley Bicycle Club, Bob and Joan Mohlar, Teague Morris, Michaeline Mulvey, Nancy Olmstead, Jim Perkins, Drew Perlmutter, Ellie Poskanzer, Dale Potter-Clark, Diane Poulin, Rosemary Presnar, Sarah Reed, Lidie Robbins, Joyce Rivers, Norm Rodrigue, George and Judy Rogers, John and Lisa Rosmarin, Joes Sanders, Janet Sawyer, Deb and Syd Sewall, Cleo Skolfield, Delmar Small, Ina Small, Andy Smith, Tim and Luvia Sniffen, Ken and Sue Spalding, Rebecca Stanley, Capt. Hugh Stephens, Joe Stevenson, Janet and Woody Tarbuck, Jane Tekin, Andy and Susie Tolman, Amy Trunnell, Kim Vandermeulen, Andy Walsh, Andy Wess, Patsy West and the Viles Foundation, Henry Whittemore, Tamara Whittemore, Milt Wright, and Linda Young.



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*The Business Partners in
Conservation program
recognizes business leaders,
companies, and organizations
in our community who have
made significant contributions
of cash, goods, and services to
support the regional
conservation efforts of the
Kennebec Land Trust. To
learn more about this program,
please contact the KLT office:
(207) 377-2848.*

*Donations as of
September, 2017*

CONSERVATION LEADER

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Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce



BOARD TRANSITIONS

Three Board Members Retire in August and Forester, Amanda Dow-Smith, Joins the Board

Hydrogeologist Martha Nielson of Manchester, attorney Patrice Putman of Winthrop, and forester Joe Stevenson of Fayette stepped down from the KLT board in August 2017 after several years of service as directors. During their time on the board, Martha chaired the Lands Committee, Patrice served as Secretary, and Joe devoted many hours to our stewardship program. These board members brought their professional expertise to KLT's land conservation work and contributed in many ways to advance our work across central Maine. Thank you, Joe, Patrice, and Martha for your service and for your commitment to KLT's land conservation work.



Clockwise from top: Mary Denison with Joe Stevenson, Martha Nielsen and Patrice Putman. Photos: Brian Kent and © Jym St. Pierre



WELCOME AMANDA DOW-SMITH



Meet Amanda Dow-Smith, our newest board member of New Sharon and Fayette. Amanda grew up in Hawaii, studied forestry in Montana, and has been a licensed Maine Forester for over 35 years. She has worked for International Paper Company and the Maine Department of Conservation Public Lands, and as a private consultant. She lives in New Sharon with her husband Richard and has two adult kids. Amanda enjoys her horses, kayaking, and x-country skiing. She serves on the Land and Stewardship Committees.



GIVE THE GIFT OF CONSERVATION THIS SEASON NEW MOUNT PISGAH TRAILS AND PROPERTIES

Please consider making a donation to the Kennebec Land Trust in honor of your friends and family this holiday season.

When you renew your membership at year's end, you could also give a membership to a friend, or donate to the Mount Pisgah campaign in their honor. Call our office with any questions: 377-2848.

To date, generous KLT donors and foundations have contributed \$52,000 to our Mount Pisgah campaign, we still need to raise \$63,000 by the end of January, 2018 to meet our goal.

See: www.tkl.org/pisgah-campaign ~ thank you for your support.





P.O. Box 261
331 Main Street
Winthrop, ME 04364

Phone: 207-377-2848

info@tklt.org

www.tklt.org

Office Hours:

M. - Th. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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@KennebecLandTrust



2018 KENNEBEC LAND TRUST LYCEUM

MARCH 15, 22, & 29, 2018

Reptile Conservation and Management

Derek Yorks, Maine Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Diversity and Natural History of Maine Amphibians

Cathy Bevier, Colby College

Collaborative Conservation of Vernal Pools: The Maine Vernal Pool Special Area Management Plan

Aram Calhoun, University of Maine &
Liz Hertz, Principal, Blue Sky Planning Solutions

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Ladd Recreation Center, Wayne 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



*Wood Turtle Photograph: Derek Yorks*

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