

JACOBS-STANLEY CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROTECTS FARMLAND, FORESTS, WETLANDS, SHORELINE, SCENIC VIEWS

Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director



With the donation of the Jacobs-Stanley Conservation Area in Monmouth this past June, KLT celebrated the conservation of 273 acres of productive hayfields, woodlands, and wetlands. This conservation easement features over 3,670 feet of undeveloped shoreline on Annabessacook Lake and permanently protects a well-known scenic vista visible from the Macomber Road.*

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) has mapped portions of the property as containing high-to-moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitat. Several of the fields include valuable agricultural soils and are currently a source of hay for Maine dairy and beef operations. The Town of Monmouth's Comprehensive Plan notes the agricultural and scenic values of the property, in particular the sweeping views of Mount Pisgah and the western mountains.

At the time of their donation, Charlie Jacobs and Rebecca Stanley noted, "This land that we love has a wonderful diversity of wildlife habitats, productive farmland, and scenic views. It is also very important to us to help protect the water quality of Annabessacook Lake by preventing development of waterfront property. We are thrilled to be able to ensure that this land will not be developed, and that the traditional views along Macomber Road of open fields and forestland will be preserved. Many thanks to KLT for giving us the opportunity to maintain this land as open space for the future."

In recognizing the significance of this gift, KLT Director Kim Vandermeulen said, "Currently Maine is experiencing increasing development pressure and the associated conversion of forestland and farmland to other uses. These losses generate carbon emissions and are contributing to the earth's rising temperatures. Since undeveloped land sequesters and stores carbon, land conservation projects like the Jacobs-Stanley easement not only protect valuable woods, wetlands, shoreland, and agricultural soils, they are also part of a natural solution to climate change. Charlie and Rebecca's gift is truly a legacy for current and future generations."

** Conservation easements are legal documents that limit the type and scope of development on a property. These lands are still privately owned but protected forever by a conservation entity.*

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Kim Vandermeulen

President's Message:

Enjoying Diversity

I have some big shoes to fill! Many thanks to Kim Vandermeulen for so ably and willingly leading our Board for the past three years. He has been a steadfast leader whose calm demeanor and quiet presence have served us well. We appreciate all the time and effort you have given to KLT, Kim. I personally look forward to your continued mentoring and support.

As this is my first column as President of the KLT Board, I thought I'd tell you a little bit about myself. You have probably surmised, since I am in this role, that I have an affinity for the outdoors, for conservation and for connecting with nature. I'm a novice birder, an aspiring birder. I'm not yet very savvy at identification or even finding the creature that is singing! I rely heavily on a phone app to tell me what I'm seeing or hearing.

I consider my best birding forays to be the ones where I just enjoy the sights and sounds of the birds without trying to identify them. I live at the base of Howard Hill in Augusta, where KLT holds a conservation easement. I can walk out my door and into the woods. On any given day I can wander there and see and hear an array of birds. I revel in the variety of colors and sounds. It fills me with joy to realize there is such diversity in my own little neck of the woods.

As I was walking the other day, I was reflecting on our trails and on access to them. Just as our conservation lands support a diversity of habitats and bird species, we support diversity in visitors. Everyone, no matter what their race, ethnicity, religion, country of origin, sexual orientation, or gender may be, is welcome on our lands. Like my favorite birding forays, I just enjoy seeing and listening to others enjoying nature. All are welcome; all are unique; all are connected. May you enjoy the diversity of all as you walk our trails.



Sincerely,

Janet Sawyer, President

KLT Staff**Andrew Czwakiel**

Seasonal Conservation

Assistant

Tyler Keniston

Stewardship Manager

Theresa Kerchner

Executive Director

Marie Ring

Membership &

Program Director

Jean-Luc Theriault

Stewardship Director

Thank you for your annual support of KLT! Your **membership donation is your most important financial contribution**. When you receive your renewal in November, please contact Marie if you have questions about your membership status.

Not a KLT member? Please consider an annual gift in support of land conservation.

Looking for an idea for a holiday gift? How about a KLT membership, a copy of *Take a Hike!*, or a gift to our Hewett Oak Hill or Vassalboro campaigns - see insert.

**KLT News Design**

Marie Ring

KLT News Editors

Theresa Kerchner

Janie Matrisciano

Deb Sewall

**Cover Photo**

Rebecca Stanley

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Dianne E. Ryan

Reade & Joan Ryan

Rebecca Stanley

Jym St. Pierre

Bob Weston

KLT Interns: Future Conservation Leaders

After an impressive season of field work, office work, and research, Andrew Czwakiel, Katie Ide, and Johnny Robinson completed their internships with KLT in August.

Enclosed in this newsletter are copies of their summer research projects.

For information about KLT's internship program, visit www.tkelt.org. We will begin recruitment for next summer in late December 2021.

Andrew Czwakiel

As a recent graduate I was looking for an internship that would enhance my skillset. I learned a lot during my summer as an intern with the Kennebec Land Trust, gaining a diverse set of skills that advanced my knowledge of land trust work. Working with the KLT staff, I learned how to build new sustainable trails, maintain existing trails, apply for a grant, and perform my own research project out at Parker Pond Headland. I really enjoyed my summer working with KLT. It was a great opportunity, and I'm very thankful to everyone who made it possible!

Andrew is working at KLT this fall as the Seasonal Conservation Assistant.



Tyler, Andrew, Johnny, & Katie at Weston Woods



Katie Ide

Spending my summer with KLT was a wonderful experience. I learned a lot about a land trust's role in land conservation and sustainability through a variety of different projects. Most of our days were spent working outside, building trail systems and maintaining KLT's properties, which include a conservation cemetery and a few freshwater islands, among many others. I also had the opportunity to work in the KLT office, where I wrote a grant and did a research paper on solar energy development. The staff at KLT are committed to making this a truly valuable internship experience, and I loved being a part of their team this summer!

Johnny Robinson

I'm very grateful to the people I worked with at the Kennebec Land Trust, and proud of what I was able to accomplish this summer. Everyone was super easy to get along with, and I felt like I was part of the team from the very start. I was initially daunted by the amount of physical work and research I was undertaking, but it didn't take long to settle into the routine. I took part in building a bridge, a roof, and trails; I created a property brochure; I spent the day at several cool properties, including some of KLT's islands; I wrote probably the longest research paper I've ever written, about relationships between conservation and Wabanaki communities; I engaged with people about the importance of KLT's work; I got to job shadow with the MDIFW; and there's probably some other great stuff I'm forgetting! I genuinely looked forward to coming to work every day. I plan on working in conservation for my lifelong career, and I hope I'm able to work at a place with the same welcoming, passionate ethic as KLT. I appreciate all the staff, board, and community members for making this such a fun and rewarding summer!

Celebration and Memorial Gifts

In Honor of Wilson Haims

Janet, Roger, Juli & Kelen

In Memory of Roger Halvorsoen

William & Margaret Beaulier

Dave & Carol Fuller

Lewis Lattanzi

Aletia & Mark Thompson

In Honor of Patsy Hardie

Alyssa Beckman

In Honor of Jon Lund

Erik Lund

In Memory of George Smith

Daniel & Judith Boucher

Douglas Boyink

Stephen & Diana McLaughlin

Brent Mulgrew

My Brother's Keeper

Camp Phoenix Owners Association

In Memory of Craig Thulen

Anonymous

Susan Falvey

Richard Goodwin

Skip Hunter

*Tribute donations as of April 17, 2021
- September 22, 2021*

Notes from the Stewardship Desk

Tyler Keniston, Stewardship Manager

The 2021 stewardship season presented the usual challenges of summer in Maine, including poison ivy, the occasional wasp's nest, and shirt-soaking humidity. For a time these old-hat nuisances were overshadowed by an onslaught of the double-dotted, itch-inducing browntail moth caterpillar, but even with one more itchy obstacle to avoid, working on KLT's conservation lands offered staff members, interns, and volunteers respite and perspective on some of life's brainier and more troubling quandaries. Other people may have noticed this benefit as well, judging from an increase in trail use throughout the year.

Work continued at the Baldwin Hill Conservation Cemetery, where a half-acre portion of the view clearing was de-stumped and cleared in preparation for KLT's first native pollinator habitat project. The prepared soil will be planted in 2022 with a diverse seed mix of wildflowers and other plants ideal for native pollinators.

The hilltop fields of Surry Hill were also prepared for a unique habitat—grassland bird—in partnership with Ag Allies. The Central Maine chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association began construction of a multi-use trail system at Surry Hill that will wrap up to the summit and wind playfully down its slopes.

At the Ezra Smith Conservation Area, a trail loop east of the boardwalk was constructed through some of the thickest and best-smelling balsam firs in the county. In addition to the “doghair fir” thickets, wetland views and impressive boulders make for a unique experience.

We spent a significant portion of the summer developing new trails at KLT's recently acquired Weston Woods Preserve. Contiguous with the Oatway Preserve and with frontage on Little Cobbossee Lake in East Winthrop, Weston provides a beautiful setting for a relaxed and peaceful trail experience.

Many other small projects, such as invasive plant removal, bog-bridging replacement, field mowing, and general trail maintenance, were performed throughout the season. Vitally, KLT's many dedicated volunteer stewards also continued to monitor, maintain, and improve their local conservation areas and trails.



New trail at Ezra Smith Wildlife Conservation Area

2021 KLT Board Transitions



Welcome Paul Kuehnert! – Paul is the President and CEO of the Public Health Accreditation Board, the national entity that sets standards for, and accredits, state, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments. He is a registered nurse and holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Illinois-Chicago. Paul resides in Hallowell with his wife, Judith Graber. He enjoys fishing, hiking, and kayaking.

Welcome New KLT Members

Don Anderson
Chris Bray
Richard Burnham
Craig Crosby
Chuck Davis
Charles A. Dow
Jackie Drouin
Jane C. Grant

Christiaan Hogendorn
Bruce & Joan Kidman
Debbie Jemey
Lee Johnson
Rita Alfonso Labarbera
Steven & Gail Landry
Ken Littlefield
Jane Ann Manson

Catherine Martin
Mary McCann-Baker
Jim Melcher
Colleen Emily Myers, Esq.
Martha Nadeau
Mark Robinson
Ailene Rogers

Brian Rogers &
Sherry Modrow
Megan Roy
Brenda Smith
Amy Terepka
Katherine Vatisstas

*New members as of April 17, 2021 -
September 22, 2021*

Thank You Foundations & Funds

Benjamin W. Lund & Barbara A.
Granville Family Fund
Carol and David Fuller Fund of
The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
Donald & Martha Kent Fund
Douglas & Jessie Macdonald Gift Fund
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Elsie & William Viles Foundation
Farnsworth Fund of the Essex County
Community Foundation
The Farr Harvey Fund
Helen & George Ladd
Charitable Corporation
Howard & Brenda Lake
Charitable Fund

John C. Orestis & Barbra M. Crowley
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Mary Brown Parlee Fund
Kennebec Savings Bank
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
McGehee-Sniffen Fund
The Nature Conservancy
Onion Foundation
Silverseed Fund of the
Maine Community Foundation
The Snider Foundation

This list includes foundations and donor-advised funds that have given \$1,000 or more to KLT, January 1, 2020 - October 13, 2021.

Please Support Our Business Partners

The businesses listed below are generous supporters of KLT and its mission. *This list reflects donations to KLT between July 1, 2020, and September 23, 2021.*

Conservation Leader

Alternative Manufacturing, Inc. (AMI)
Amy P. Trunnell, CPA
Augusta Fuel Co.
Camp Androscoggin
Camp Laurel
Camp Vega for Girls
Camp Winnebago
Cribstone Capital Management
Everett J. Prescott, Inc.
(Team EJP Employees)
Farris Law
Fieldstone Gardens Inc.
G & E Roofing
Kennebec Savings Bank
Kennebec Cabin Company
Lake and Denison Attorneys
Longfellow's Greenhouses LPK
Peter L. Mendall Certified
Financial Planner (CFP®)
One River CPAs
Sprague and Curtis Real Estate
Stantec
Two Trees Forestry
Winthrop Veterinary Hospital

Family First Funeral Homes
J. S. McCarthy Printers
Levey, Wagley, Putman, & Eccher, PA,
Attorneys at Law
Old Port Advisors
Poolweb
The Liberal Cup
Van der Brew

Trail Blazer

Beth Jones Yoga
Maine Street Credit Union

Business Partner

Beth Anne Pochopien,
Occupational Therapist
Blanchard Cabinetmakers
Camp Runoia
Creative Conservation, LLC
D.R. Struck Landscape Nursery
Family Dental Practice
Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce
North Country Rivers
Northeast Charter & Tour Co.
Readmont Lumber
Thomas Agency
Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of
Commerce
Winthrop Fuel Company

Kennebec County Champion

A Lakeside Studio Pottery
Big White Barn
Gibson LeClair LLC.

Thank You Volunteers

Judy Anderson, Jane Andrews, John Andrews,
Peggy & John Barnes, Nat Bell, Sue Bell,
Jordan Beall, Jerry Bley, Katie Caulfield,
Susan Caldwell, Jim Connors,
Janet & Richard Crane, Cheri Cooledge,
Julie Davenport, Elizabeth Davidson,
Jane Davis, Wes Davis, Mary Denison,
Eric Doucette, Phil Downes, Shane Duigan,
Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed,
Dave Fuller, Amy Hughes, Fred Hurley,
Lloyd Irland, Jill Ippoliti, Charlie Jacobs,
Kevin & Mary Kane, Marty Keniston,
Paul Kuehnert, Kent's Hill students,
Brenda & Howard Lake, Ed Lake,
Ken Laustsen, Maranacook students,
Brian Mann, Janie Matrisciano, Tom Matthews,
Cathy McCue, Diana & Steve McLaughlin,
John Melrose, Patricia Mooney,
Anabeth Murray, Shearon & Kyle Murray,
Alice Olson & Dr. Shaw Memorial Library,
Steve Pelletier, Jim Perkins,
Chuck & Lorraine Ravis, Chris Riley &
Central Maine NEMBA, Joyce Rivers,
Lynn Roberts Reed & Family First Funeral
Homes, Sarah Reed, Norm Rodrigue,
Andy Smith, Janet & Ansley Sawyer,
Deb & Syd Sewall, Andy Shultz &
Maine Forest Service, Cleo Skofield,
Taylor Stevenson, Andy Tolman,
Amy Trunnell, Kim Vandermeulen,
Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead,
Andy Walsh, Camp Winnebago &
Andy Lilienthal & **KLT land donors,
stewards, office & field volunteers,
directors, & advisors.**



Nat Bell and Ken Laustsen at the 2021 Curtis Forestry Program

**KLT NEWSLETTER
SPONSOR**



2021 Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting on August 25th was an inspiring celebration of conservation. Hosted by **Camp Winnebago** and sponsored by **Lake and Denison**, members and guests had an opportunity to enjoy Echo Lake and a hike at the nearby **Hewett Oak Hill property**. Our 2020 and 2021 budgets as presented by KLT Director Marty Keniston are shown below.

Awards and Recognitions

Land Donors

Charlie Jacobs & Rebecca Stanley

John W. & Henry M. Tyler

Bob & Jim Weston

Howard Lake Lifetime Achievement Award

Norm Rodrigue

Jim Connors

Stewardship Award

Andy Smith

Director's Award

Kim Vandermeulen

KLT Summer Interns

Andrew Czapkiel

Katie Ide

Johnny Robinson

	<u>FYE June 2020</u>	<u>FYE June 2021</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
<u>OPERATING INCOME</u>		
Memberships, Sponsorships	\$204,378	\$215,000
Hiking Guide Sponsorships	-	24,000
Donor Designated Contributions	38,212	44,839
In Memoria	11,811	8,526
PPP - Forgive Loan	35,165	8,435
Other	6,500	18,014
Net Return on Investments	643	510
Total Operating Income	296,709	319,324
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>		
Staff	217,236	234,503
Office	64,507	56,237
Programs and Stewardship	40,044	42,919
Hiking Guide Printing	-	26,041
Total Operating Expenses	321,787	359,700
Net Operations Activity before Transfers	(25,078)	(40,376)
Transfers from Stewardship and Endowment	25,078	40,376
ANNUAL OPERATIONS	-	-
<u>Restricted and Other Funds</u>		
Donations	705,607	254,396
Net Return on Investments	51,385	303,941
Expenses	(105,420)	(65,353)
Release to Operations from Donor Restriction & per Spending Policy	(63,290)	(85,215)
Net Restricted and Other Funds	588,282	407,769
Depreciation	(13,946)	(15,949)
Net Assets Beginning of Year	6,781,435	7,355,771
Net Assets End of Year	\$ 7,355,771	\$ 7,747,591



Norm Rodrigue and Jim Connors with their awards
Photo: Andy Tolman



Andy Smith at Hutchinson Pond Conservation Area
Photo: Norm Rodrigue



Hewett Oak Hill Tour

Photo: Norm Rodrigue

	<u>FYE June 2020</u>	<u>FYE June 2021</u>
<u>BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY</u>		
Cash	\$44,748	\$29,947
Conservation Fund	193,797	281,762
Stewardship Fund	581,402	789,785
Endowment Fund	159,592	251,601
Donor Restricted	404,504	392,603
Total Cash/Investments	1,384,043	1,745,698
Other	75	2,075
Net Property/Buildings/Easements	6,023,298	6,001,496
Total Assets	7,407,416	7,749,269
Current liabilities	6,128	1,678
PPP loan	43,600	-
Mortgage	1,917	-
Total Liabilities	51,645	1,678
Net Assets end of year	\$ 7,355,771	\$ 7,747,591
Fiscal Year 2020-2021		
Significant land acquisitions:		
Addition to Surry Hill, Jacobs-Stanley Conservation Area, Weston Woods Preserve		



2021 Annual Meeting

Photos: Andy Tolman

Annual Operations

<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>
\$321,787	\$359,700	\$380,317

Your Conservation Legacy: KLT's Endowment Fund

Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director

Every year more than eleven hundred KLT member households support land conservation, trail projects, and our stewardship and education programs. Thank you for your generosity!

While membership dues are critical to our day-to-day work, KLT's future success will also depend on larger, longer-term gifts. To ensure our future as a conservation leader in Kennebec County, we have established the KLT Endowment Fund.

Any donor who names KLT as a beneficiary of a portion of his or her estate or who sets up a life income gift for the benefit of the Trust will be recognized as a member of our Legacy Society. All proceeds from planned gifts will be invested for the long term in the Endowment Fund, which preserves the principal. Earnings are available for program expenses.

If you have a traditional IRA and are over the age of 70½, you can make tax-free distributions directly from your account to the KLT Endowment Fund. If you are subject to a required Minimum Distribution (RMD), now starting at age 72, such a contribution can reduce your taxable income while satisfying your RMD. You can contact your IRA administrator and arrange to have the transfer made directly. The transfer must be direct from your IRA administrator to KLT to qualify as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). You will receive

the tax benefit, and KLT and the lands we love will be the beneficiary of your gift.

Each of us has a vision for what we would like to leave as a legacy, and we hope you will consider leaving a gift to KLT.

The following language can be used in your will: I give to Kennebec Land Trust, a nonprofit land conservation trust located in Winthrop, Maine, with Tax ID Number 01-044-0729, the sum of \$ _____ [or _____ percent of my estate] to be used for the general purposes of The Kennebec Land Trust.



For additional information, please contact

Theresa Kerchner at **207-377-2848** or **tkerchner@tklt.org**



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Printed on 30% post-consumer
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Kennebec Land Trust 2022 Lyceum

Medicinal Plants: Ecology, Botany, & Cultural Uses

Additional information will be posted on KLT's
website later this fall.

Photo: three-leaved goldthread, *Coptis trifolia*
Author Haines

