



CELEBRATING THE NORTH ACRES WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA

Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director

We give this land to KLT in memory of Ruth & Richard Lee and William & Carolyn Plenkey.

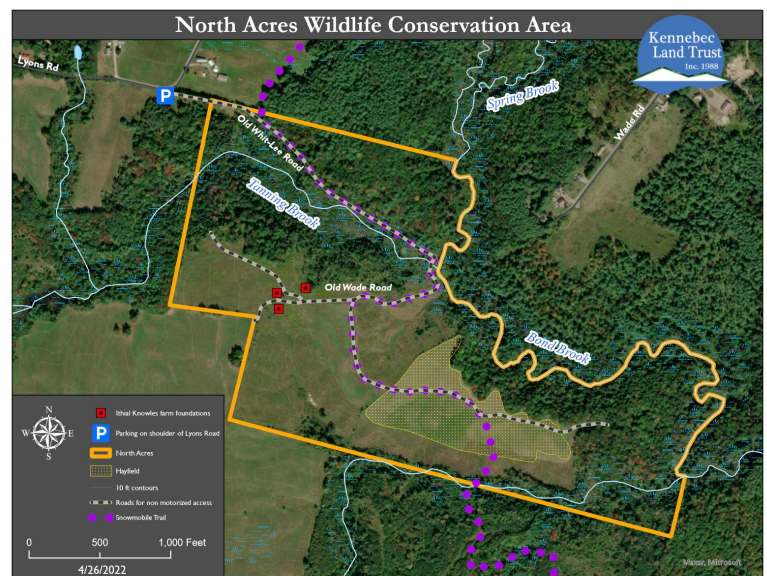
May the wildlife thrive and the community continue to enjoy its diversity and beauty. ~ Trudie Lee and Deb Plenkey

With the trees just beginning to leaf out on a chilly evening in late April, more than seventy-five people gathered near the rushing waters of Bond Brook to dedicate KLT's 132-acre North Acres Wildlife Conservation Area. Land donors Trudie Lee and Deb Plenkey noted their deep connection to this land and described their long-held vision of permanently protecting its woods, waters, and fields for their agricultural and wildlife habitat values and for other people to enjoy. In recognizing Deb and Trudie's generosity, KLT President Janet Sawyer highlighted the land's natural beauty and important conservation values. *

Just outside of Augusta in a region with increasing development pressure, the ecologically diverse 132-acre parcel features cold water brooks, extensive riparian areas, productive hayfields, and conifer and hardwood woodlands. Trudie and Deb established a conservation easement with the Maine Farmland Trust in 2020 on land adjacent to North Acres. The two tracts combine to create a 200-acre conservation property that will forever benefit Maine's wildlife and people.

Trudie, Deb, and Trudie's family have been haying and pasturing animals on this land and exploring the surrounding woods and brooks since 1962. As you hike the farm road above the Tanning Brook wetland to the confluence with Spring Brook, we hope you'll pause to enjoy the diversity and beauty around you, then climb further to view the expansive hayfields. Also known as Mill Brook, Bond Brook flows eastward to the Kennebec River and provides critical habitat for one of the strongest brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) populations in the capital region, and for many other species of insects, birds, and mammals as well. These streams are fed by an exceptional cold groundwater source that's the key to a healthy brook trout habitat. Visit our website at www.tkl.org for directions and public use information.

**KLT Lands Committee members Norm Rodrigue and Howard Lake devoted many volunteer hours to this conservation project. Thank you Norm and Howard!*



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President's Message: Gratitude for Public Access

I try not to take things for granted, and I pause at some point each day to be grateful. On a long, multiple-day road trip recently, my husband and I were continually looking for places to walk or ride our bikes. In some areas it was easy to find a trail or boardwalk. In others we spent a lot of time looking without much success.

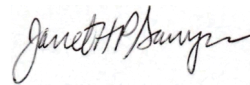
Of course, KLT was often on my mind, and as we looked for publicly accessible lands, I was grateful for the forests, lands, lakes, streams, wetlands, and fields that we have permanently protected. Thanks to our members and land donors, in the capital region we can climb a hill and view mountains, walk a wooded trail to a shoreline in order to gaze at the water and the birds, bike a hill to a 360-degree vista, or paddle on a pond with nary a soul in sight. Our conservation lands provide residents and visitors with many opportunities to connect with nature, observe the natural world, get some exercise, and explore new areas and learn about our flora and fauna.

As we provide public access to conserved properties for all to enjoy, we are also mindful of our responsibilities as landowners and neighbors. We choose to pay open space taxes on our properties as a way to support the communities we serve. We have a vibrant group of volunteers and a highly skilled stewardship staff working to maintain our trails, parking lots, kiosks, and maps. As an organization, we are committed to working cooperatively with landowners and communities as we conserve and provide public access to our 7,500 acres.

Looking ahead, this summer KLT's stewardship staff, along with our interns and volunteers, will construct a loop trail on one of our newest properties in Fayette, the 120-acre Oak Hill Conservation Area. This path will provide a view of Echo Lake and a lovely walk through Maine's hardwood-conifer woodlands.

I am grateful for the work that KLT does in our communities each and every day. I am grateful as well for the 55 miles of trails we make available for the public to access. I am grateful to be involved with KLT. And, I am grateful for each of you who help make our mission a reality.

Sincerely,


Janet Sawyer, President**Staff****Baylee Bachelder**

Operations &

Volunteer Manager

Tyler Keniston

Stewardship Manager

Theresa Kerchner

Executive Director

Marie Ring

Membership &

Program Director

Jean-Luc Theriault

Stewardship Director

KLT News Design

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KLT News Editors

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Welcome to Our 2022 Summer Interns

Our 2022 interns will be supporting Jean-Luc and Tyler and the stewardship program, writing a grant proposal with Marie, learning about office operations, and conducting a research project with Theresa.



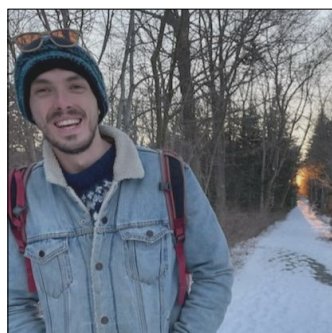
Emily Lamb

I'm a rising senior at the University of Arizona, studying Environmental Science with a minor in Natural Resources. I'm originally from Missouri, but I moved to Colorado during high school, which is when I discovered my passion for the outdoors. I feel the most at peace when hiking, camping, backpacking, snowboarding, or just spending time in a natural setting. This summer will be my first time visiting Maine, and while it will be quite different from the desert mountains of Arizona or the Rockies of Colorado, I have heard that its beauty is unmatched!

I look forward to working with the Kennebec Land Trust to provide better access to the outdoors and scientific education to tomorrow's leaders, as well as getting to know the lifestyle and community in Winthrop.

Naomi Lynch

I'm a rising sophomore at Bates College, majoring in Environmental Studies. My main focus is exploring the relationship between humans and the environment. I'm from Farmingdale, Maine, and have grown up enjoying the natural beauty the state provides. I enjoy hiking, kayaking, canoeing, and skiing, among other activities. I have always known that I want a career in conservation, and I can't wait to learn more about the work that goes into it. One of my goals for this summer is to help increase access to the outdoors for new Mainers. Maine's outdoors has given me a great deal throughout my life, and I'm excited to help return the favor through this internship.



Ben Peverall

I'm in my final year at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, where I major in Human Ecology. My courses have primarily focused on environmental law and policy, ecology, and natural history. I spend my time outside of class hiking, cooking, and playing piano and saxophone. I've spent most of my summers working as a camp counselor, leading kids on backpacking trips in Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina, where I grew up. This summer I want to learn more about land trust operations, then apply that knowledge to a land conservation project starting up in my hometown.

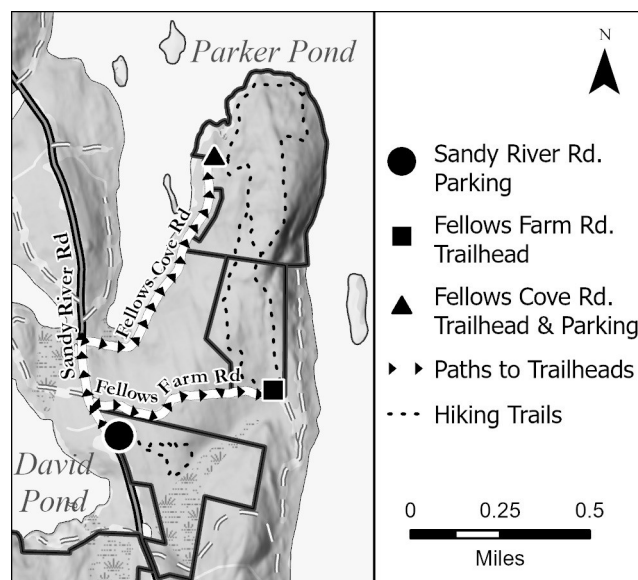
New Parking Area for the Parker Pond Headland Preserve

We need your help! This summer we'll be developing a new parking lot for the Parker Pond Headland Preserve. We ask that visitors to the Headland consider parking in our new Sandy River Road lot and biking or walking to the trailheads on the Fellows Farm or Fellows Cove Roads. If you do plan to park at the Fellows Cove Road lot, we hope you'll consider visiting during the week rather than on busy weekends. If you plan to hike with others, please use the Sandy River Road parking lot as a meeting place. Please see our website for more information.

Distance to trailheads from Sandy River Road parking lot:

Fellows Farm Rd. - 0.7 miles

Fellows Cove Rd. - 1 mile



Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat Addition

Marie Ring, Director of Membership & Programming

We're excited to announce a 36-acre addition to the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat. KLT purchased the parcel at a bargain sale price from longtime Vassalboro residents Maybelle L. Dean and her family, who had contacted KLT in 2021 about conservation options for their family land.

The new parcel borders the already existing Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat to the north, east, and south. The addition helps protect a large contiguous area of important plant and wildlife habitat, including over a mile on both sides of a stream that flows into Seven Mile Stream and the Kennebec River. The trails at the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat provide a safe and beautiful place for walking, cross-country skiing, birding, and fishing, including access to half a mile of shoreline on Webber Pond.

Thanks to the generosity of the donors listed below, plus campaign organizational support provided by longtime KLT supporter and property steward John Melrose, the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat now includes 366 acres of conservation land.

Anonymous (10)	Evert Fowle	George Manter	Frank R. Richards
James & Evelyn Ashton	Margaret Hemphill	J. S. McCarthy Printers	Eddie Scholz
Bill Baghdoyan & Janet Waldron	Glenn & Sara Hodgkins	John & Molly Melrose	Jean Scudder
Richard & Denise Behr	Barbara Horner	Dana J. Michaud	Carolyn Seney
Ginny Brackett	Peggy Horner	Paul Mitnik	Gus & Paula Smiley
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Jim & Susan Caldwell	Rick Jose	Marcel & Susan Moreau	Wayne & Elizabeth Wiltshire
Robert & Linda Carrell	Linda & Arthur Kingdon	Peter Moulton & Susan Cottle	Jim Webb
Linda Decker	Lisa Kane	Jim Peacock	Jean Wright
Ken & Donna Estes	Theresa Kerchner & Jim Perkins	Richard Phippen	John & Mary Margaret Young
Fieldstone Gardens	Dan Kress	Barb Redmond	
David & Tracy Fortin	Jo Anne Lund & David Fox	Elizabeth & John E. Reuthe	
		Family Charitable Fund	



Howard Lake

Conservation Community News

Congratulations Jerry Bley!



*Jerry Bley at Howard Hill
Photo: Brian Kent*

Longtime KLT member Jerry Bley recently received the 2022 Espy Land Heritage Award from the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. The award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to land conservation in Maine while inspiring others. Jerry brings patience, persistence, optimism, and dedication to conservation across the state of Maine. He was instrumental in the conservation of the 164-acre Howard Hill property in Augusta. Jerry worked with the landowner, KLT, and the City

of Augusta for three years and navigated the shifting priorities of the Land for Maine's Future program. In the process he earned the trust and respect of all parties.

Welcome Baylee Bachelder - Operations & Volunteer Manager

Baylee joined the KLT team in the autumn of 2021 and is in the office one day a week. She has a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from UMaine. Her love of animals has led her to try to farm sustainably, with minimal environmental impact. Baylee and her husband own a 90-acre farm where they have a variety of critters and primarily produce hay.



Maine Lands for Future Generations

Mary Denison, Past KLT President

Ronn and I both grew up in Kennebec County and cherished the time we spent outdoors, whether exploring a neighbor's field in search of wild strawberries or discovering a new path through the woods peppered with trillium and pink lady's slippers. I distinctly remember when I first tried eating tart sorrel and sweet clover nectar as I foraged around in the back yard. Ronn remembers spending countless hours with friends "walking the creek" to look for frogs and the perfect skipping stones. As kids, we took for granted that we had plenty of wild open spaces in which to play and learn. As adults, we now realize just how precious those wild open spaces can be.

As a Board Member of the Kennebec Land Trust for over ten years, I have seen firsthand how this organization oversees and protects publicly accessible conservation land. With a remarkably capable staff and a dedicated group of volunteer stewards, the mission-focused work is performed to the highest ethical standards. We have included a bequest to the Kennebec Land Trust in our estate planning in the hope that our small contribution will help ensure that future generations in Kennebec County will have the same access to nature that we both enjoyed as children.



*Ronn Gifford & Mary Denison,
Conservation Leaders & Legacy Society Members*

Your Conservation Legacy: KLT's Endowment Fund

Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director

As we approach our 35th anniversary, I have been reflecting on KLT's many accomplishments as well as looking ahead to the conservation work on our horizon. We have experienced three decades of significant growth and developed a reputation as a conservation leader in our 413,000 acre service region.

Every year more than eleven hundred KLT member households support land conservation, trail projects, and our stewardship and education programs.

Our members make everything we do possible! While membership dues are critical to our day-to-day work, KLT's future sustainability 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. To date KLT has received \$452,500 in bequests from our generous donors.

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 me at **207-377-2848** or **tkerchner@tklt.org** to arrange, an in-person, phone or virtual meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you.



Maine Medicinal Plants - 2022 Lyceum

Marie Ring, *Director of Membership & Programming*

This year's lyceum began with an informative lecture on botany and plant identification by Eric Doucette, botanist and Associate Professor of Biology at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Eric shared information about plant features, as well as books that can be used to identify plants found in Maine and New England.

Our second lyceum speaker, Deb Soule, is an herbalist and the founder of Avena Botanicals in Rockport, where the mission is to "create the highest quality herbal products while nurturing plants, people, and pollinators." Deb started her presentation by sharing information about the types of products that can be made from medicinal plants – teas, tinctures, vinegars, and salves. Then she dove into the specific medicinal uses of the ten plants Eric had highlighted. One that seemed relevant for many attendees was blue vervain (*Verbena hastata*), commonly used to help with stress and anxiety.



Blue vervain

Johnny Robinson

Jennifer Neptune, artist, anthropologist, educator, and member of the Penobscot Nation, was our final speaker. She offered a unique perspective on the cultural uses of and connections to native plants in Maine. Used both medicinally and in basket weaving, sweetgrass and brown ash are two plants of particular cultural significance to the Wabanaki.

Although the content presented by our three guest speakers varied, the underlying message was similar. Jennifer captured it well when she spoke of establishing relationship, respect, and reciprocity with plants and the natural world, and taking only what you need.

Thank you to our wonderful speakers, as well as the Josselyn Botanical Society, this year's sponsor, and our generous supporter Gloria Williams Ladd for making this year's lyceum possible.

Welcome New Members!

Anonymous	John Clarke	Ivan Goldstein	Elizabeth Leighton	Matt & Tamara Smith
Wendy Bauer	Patricia Collins	Michaela Harms	Scott J. Lewis	Angie Tarbox
Johnnie Beane	Robert B. Cowan	Sidney & Jill Holt	Kelly MacDonald Weeks	Maureen & Vincent Terrill
Frank Bonelli	William Norris Dale Jr	Walter J. Jakubas &	Mary Kate McCarthy	David Ullman
Melanie Boucher	Amy Davidoff &	Mary Kellogg	Ben Nugent	Ben Wallace
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Asha Butterworth	Marc Demers	Tyler Kidder	Moe Parker & Rita Hawker	Alice & Scott Wiercinski
Bob Capers &	Daniel J. Dwyer	Karen Kurkjian	Rochelle M. Roelofs	Walter &
Toby Baldwin	Nick Geisinger	Beth Labaugh	Kayda Selby	Barbara Zaccadelli

Celebration & Memorial Gifts

In Honor of Janet Adelberg

Rachel J. Frew

In Memory of Joseph A Bauer Jr. & Mary Brown Parlee

Allan Doyle

In Honor of Wendy Bauer

Christopher Bauer

In Memory of David J. Crandall

Marilyn C. Jones

In Honor of Thomas Daniels Jr.

Jasmine Daniels

In Honor of Glenn Hodgkins

Sara, Anna & Ben Hodgkins

In Memory of Lincoln Ladd

John & Teresa Ladd

In Memory of Albert Pera

Lee & Sue Knorr

In Honor of Sunshine Perlis

Brigid & Sophie

In Honor of Hilary Smith, Flavio Sanchez, & Ivy Sanchez

Rebekah Smith & Patrick Mellor

In Honor of Josh, Kelly, Ada & Esme Smith

Rebekah Smith & Patrick Mellor

In memory of George Smith

Julie Dupont

New members and tribute donations are from September 23, 2021 - April 15, 2022

Thank You Foundations & Funds

Benjamin W. Lund & Barbara A. Granville Family Fund
 Davis Conservation Foundation
 Donald & Martha Kent Fund
 Douglas & Jessie Macdonald Gift Fund
 Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
 Elizabeth & John E. Reuthe Family Charitable Fund
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 Howard & Brenda Lake Charitable Fund
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 Kennebec Savings Bank
 Maine Coast Heritage Trust
 Maine Community Foundation
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 Max Davis Giving Fund
 The Nature Conservancy
 Onion Foundation
 Silverseed Fund of the Maine Community Foundation

This list includes foundations and donor-advised funds that have given \$1,000 or more to KLT, January 1, 2021 - April 20, 2022

Please Support Our Business Partners

The businesses listed below are generous supporters of KLT and its mission. *This list reflects donations to KLT between January 1, 2021, and April 20 2022.*

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 Camp Androskoggin
 Camp Laurel
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 Kennebec Cabin Company
 Kennebec Savings Bank
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 One River CPAs
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 Stantec
 Two Trees Forestry
 Winthrop Veterinary Hospital

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A Lakeside Studio Pottery
 Big White Barn

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 Poolweb
 van der Brew

Trail Blazer

Beth Jones Yoga
 J.S. McCarthy Printers

Business Partner

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 Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Maine State Credit Union
 North Country Rivers
 Peter L. Mendall Certified Financial Planner
 (CFP®)
 Readmont Lumber
 Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce
 Winthrop Fuel Company

Thank You Volunteers

A.B.L. Roofing and Construction,
 Jane Andrews, Nat Bell, Jerry Bley,
 Cheri Cooledge, Jim Connors,
 Dave Courtemanch, Janet & Richard Crane,
 Deb Crowley, Julie Davenport,
 Elizabeth Davidson, Jane Davis,
 Eric Doucette, Phil Downes, Shane Duigan,
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 Joel Stoneton & Winthrop High School,
 Andy Tolman, Amy Trunnell,
 Kim Vandermeulen, Barbara Vickery,
 Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead,
 Andy Walsh, & **KLT Land Donors,
 Stewards, Office & Field Volunteers,**



Kent's Hill students cleaning up brush on Surry Hill

**KLT
 NEWSLETTER
 SPONSOR**





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2021 Annual Meeting at Camp Winnebago *Andy Tolman*



Eric Doucette leading a botany walk *Andy Tolman*

Annual Meeting
Sunday, August 21, 2022
Camp Androscoggin, Wayne

Medicinal Plant Workshops
Plant Identification June 28
Tinctures Demystified July 7
Our Healing Allies September 11