

■ Box 181, Center Lovell, Maine 04016

President's Message Howard A. Corwin, M.D., President

The Greater Lovell Land

Trust is looking forward to another great year in 2008.

Last year, seven landowners permanently protected their properties by partnering with us in placing conservation easements on their land. We are grateful for the vision and commitment to our special places demonstrated by these landowners through their actions.

Much of our time in 2007 was committed to facilitating the completion of an 119,000 acre Conservation Plan for the Kezar Lake, Kezar River and Cold River watersheds. The GLLT received grants of \$75,000 and \$5000 from the US Department of Agriculture and the Sweetwater Trust, respectively, to fund this work. This plan outlines conservation priorities of highly valued community assets and recommends specific actions to preserve them. The GLLT is in the process of reviewing the recommendations to determine its role and to set priorities for our participation in advancing the plan's recommendations. As always, working with the towns of Lovell, Stoneham and Stow will be essential.

We have always known that no lakes, ponds, streams or rivers will remain safe unless the integrity of surrounding land is maintained. That has essentially become our mission. Easements and ownership have become our tools. Whenever possible, lands owned by the land trust are made available to the community for appropriate and traditional usages such as hiking, nature study, cross-country skiing hunting, fishing and snow-mobiling.



national conservation issues pertinent to strengthening our own ability to achieve our goals. For this reason, Tom has served on the Maine Land Trust Network steering committee for many years, formulating policy and developing new tools and resources for over 94 land trusts statewide.

He also serves regionally as Chairman of the Upland Headwaters Alliance, a collaborative effort by four local land trusts designed to increase the effectiveness of each. He remains active in advocating for public policy, research and pilot programs that have the potential to expand local resources, strengthen public support for conservation and ensure that the highest quality standards, practices and ethics are met by the land conservation community.

This summer, the GLLT's 19th Annual Educational Program will feature Evan Richert, former director of the Maine State Planning Office, and currently a professor at the Edmund Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. He is an expert on the issues of sprawl, conservation and development, and will discuss how these issues apply to our communities. Please plan to attend on the morning of August 9th at the Lovell Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in Lovell Village.

We thank our membership and our communities for their continuing support. Conservation is a joint effort. We need your involvement and could not do it without you.

Our membership continues to grow and we look forward to many new members in 2008. As properties change ownership or pass down within families, it is important that new residents and the next generation join with us and share our goals. Your membership is needed to support the mission. Membership assures receiving our newsletters, notice of our educational programs and other benefits. It also makes us a stronger organization financially and politically, which is vital to our future success.

The GLLT staff and volunteers work year round to bring you high quality programs, recreational opportunities, pertinent information and special land projects. Our Executive Director, Tom Henderson, is available to provide information on the Conservation Plan, assist you with protection options for your own land, direct you to our recreational facilities, answer your questions, take your comments and distribute information from our office in Lovell Village. While we focus heavily on our local preservation efforts, the GLLT has long recognized the need for direct involvement in strengthening the ability of all land trusts to be effective conservation advocates. As such, we dedicate time and effort to regional, statewide and

Notes from the Desk

Tom Henderson, Executive Director

As I prepare this letter, it is the spring equinox. Northern Maine is under the siege of an 18-inch blizzard. There remain nearly 4 feet of snow in our woods and the cold winds are still blowing. Though the calendar says that spring has arrived, many are not convinced. If not for the daily run of maple sap from the sugar bush and the seedlings emerging under my south facing windows, I might, too, be counted among the non-believers. In case I need even further convincing, I only need look at the 4 arm loads of firewood left where once there were 5 cords of neatly stacked, 21 inch, bone warming gems. While winter lingers and spring waits patiently, I will endeavor to cut and split some of next year's wood for this year's warmth.

In the Fall 2007 newsletter, I spoke of the significant role that private landowners play in land conservation, locally and across the nation. I informed that "In Maine, fully one-half of all permanently protected land is privately owned." Last year, seven local landowners placed conservation easements on their properties preserving a total of 292 acres of forestland and wildlife habitat, including over 1.9 miles of stream, lake and pond frontage. In each case, the significance of the conservation values preserved cannot be overstated.

Each easement was tailored to meet the long term stewardship goals of the owners while identifying and securing protection for its most valued natural resources. The landowners reserve the right to permit or restrict public access and other valued private property rights.

Our mission to preserve the health and vitality of this region was greatly advanced by the generosity and personal vision of these families and individuals. Independently, these properties represent some of our most valued forestlands, shorelines and public vistas. Each is very closely associated geographically with other protected lands. Thus combined, they help to build continuity of wildlife habitats for the preservation of viable native wildlife populations. We are currently working on several additional land protection projects to build upon this foundation of conserved lands.

The Conservation Plan was due to be made public in February, but had been delayed by final edits and the inclusion of some additional data and resources. It should be publicly available by the time you read this newsletter. We all have a role to play in preventing loss of our most valued resources. The Plan identifies many of these resources and offers specific actions which can be taken to avoid losses

and preserve our quality of life. Some of the most effective actions will be best achieved by collaborative efforts through town governments, conservation and watershed associations and private landowners. The full document will be posted on our website for access by all. In addition, I will be making multiple public presentations throughout the year on the Plan's concepts and utility. Printed volumes will be made available at the local libraries, town offices and the GLLT office.

If you have visited the website lately, you will discover I have overcome the technological challenges that prevented frequent upgrades. Since mid-March, I have been able to update the site and keep it current, as well as begin to add our trail maps and brochures for downloading. Visit the site often, as I will be posting there regularly.

As I see what has been accomplished to date and speak with so many of you, I realize the strength of conservation commitment within the community. My participation in the development of the Conservation Plan makes me realize the opportunity we have in making the future secure and bright for our children. I am glad to be a part of this with you.

Tribute to John S. Prescott

John S. Prescott died of cancer on March 17, 2008 at his home in New York at the age of 80. He was a highly accomplished, deeply principled and idealistic person--quiet, understated, yet remarkably effective. Every business, community or organization with which he was affiliated benefited from his leadership, foresight and wisdom.

John served in World War II, was an alumnus of Williams College and was active in its alumni affairs. He had a distinguished career in newspaper publish-

ing. His resume included the presidency of The Washington Post during the 1970's as well as partnership in the organization that co-owned the International Herald-Tribune prior to his retirement in the late 1980's. He was responsible also for the development of several New England regional newspapers.

In New York, John was active in the Correctional Association of New York which dealt with prison conditions and was a member of the Fourth Universalist Society Unitarian Church.

In Lovell, John was a great friend of the community. He arranged for Lovell to have the land for its fire station. He was a benefactor of the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library. He was an incorporator and inspirational leader of the Greater Lovell Land Trust and served on its Board of Directors and Executive Committee since its inception in 1985. He was the elder statesman of our organization and the GLLT dedicated its Annual Education Program to John last summer.

John will be missed, but remembered for the extraordinary gentleman that he was.

Annual Appeal Results and Financial Update

GLLT Announces Additional Matching Gift

As a kick-off to our 2007 - 2008 Annual Appeal for donations, the Greater Lovell Land Trust was pleased to announce a matching gift program in the amount of \$25,000, directed toward our Endowment Fund. The GLLT is extremely pleased to announce that 32 benefactors contributed \$35,500, exceeding our and the anonymous donor's expectations. Accordingly, the GLLT is gratified to be able to announce at this time that the \$10,500 in excess of the matching limit will be carried forward to fiscal 2009 and will also be matched as a part of a newly established program by the same donor to match an additional \$75,000 over the next three years. You will be hearing more about this in the months ahead. If all goes according to plan, at the end of three years, our endowment will be approaching \$300,000 and will provide a solid base level of support toward our long term goal of a \$2,000,000

Endowment Fund. Securing the financial future of the GLLT allows us to continue with our guarantee that conservation easements will be protected in perpetuity. We thank everyone who participated in this program and sincerely hope that this past year's results and the promise for the future will encourage everyone to contribute again to this truly valuable program. The GLLT is extremely grateful to the individual who has provided us with this unique opportunity to ensure our future.

Since our last newsletter, our independent auditors, Chandel Associates, P.A., of Bridgton, Maine, completed their audit of our financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2007 and issued a "clean" opinion thereon. In addition, our tax returns on Form 990 were filed with the IRS and the Treasurer of the State of Maine in a timely manner.

The GLLT experienced a slight diminution in the amount of money directed towards membership and unrestricted contributions during this past year. In part, this may have been the result of shifting our Membership Drive to the spring in 2007. Please know that our need for operating funds obtained through dues and unrestricted contributions has not diminished. These funds will be even more sorely needed than in the past, as the level of our conservation efforts and the programs we provide continues to rise.

As always, we thank you for your votes of confidence as measured by your financial support and look forward to seeing you at a GLLT function this summer.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE SEEKS 75 NEW MEMBERS FOR 2008

Margaret Nomentana, Membership Chair

Last year, the Greater Lovell Land Trust instituted a new and streamlined membership drive. Memberships now run concurrently with our fiscal calendar, from May 1 to April 30. If you're not already a GLLT member, please join us. We need your support! Please take a moment and fill out our membership envelope, sending it back to us with your check. By joining now, you'll help us reach our goal of 75 new members for 2008. In addition, you'll be helping us deliver our high quality programming as well as our land preservation, conservation and stewardship projects.

Because our members play such a crucial role in our organization, this summer we

will be hosting some special Members Only events. The GLLT will be offering workshops to our members revolving around the theme of Creativity and the Landscape. As a member, you will receive notification of these events in a timely manner. There will also be other membership benefits, so don't miss out: Join the GLLT today!

Every membership is highly valued. With your membership and support of the GLLT, you are joining with others in the community to support the important and crucial work the Greater Lovell Land Trust does to protect our watersheds and the environment that means so much to all of us. For those members who choose to join at the Premier level, this year we

are offering a choice of two premiums. One is a handsome 5 x 7 Journal with the GLLT logo on the cover. Use the journal as a guest book, as a place to record memorable events, or just as a place to jot down phone messages—the possibilities are endless! Or, you may select A Kid's Guide to Fly Fishing, a book for children, and all of us who want to know about what fly fishing is all about. The book is by child author Tyler Befus, complete with photos and journal chronicles of his fishing adventures. When you've made your choice, just make a note of your preference by writing "Book" or "Journal" on your membership envelope.

Don't delay, join GLLT today!

KLWA News You Can Use - by Ann Williams

Winter Fishing in Maine

This has been a harsh winter here in Maine, but wonderful for snow and ice sports. "Fish shacks" dotted our lakes and ponds, and a good many "fish stories" came from people using them! An 18" salmon was pulled out in Upper Bay on Kezar Lake. The "fish shack" was subsequently frozen into the lake, no doubt by retaliating fish! All "fish shacks" must be off the lakes and ponds by April 1, when the season for ice fishing ends. Some don't make it, and sink at "ice-out". Some are made to float, should that be necessary.

"Fish shacks" don't live up to their name---they far surpass it, with many having propane heaters, TVs, kitchen facilities and cots. On Kezar Lake, many are found at Boulder Brook, in part to take advantage of the smelt run up Boulder Brook, where they spawn. Accompanying the smelt in fast pursuit are predatory fish such as bass, pickerel and

salmon, much to the delight of the fishermen. Typically, these shacks are reached by snowmobiles, pick-up trucks, or by walking with snowshoes, X/country skis or sturdy boots.

Interestingly enough, once the lakes and ponds have frozen, the temperature of the water column is the same from top to bottom. Imagine a column of water reaching from the surface of the lake to the sediment at the bottom---that is known as the "water column"; a handy concept for biologists when studying environmental factors. Fish that seek the cold waters of the deep parts of the lake in the summer can be caught in shallow waters once the surface is frozen.

KLWA News and Activities

Several board members of the KLWA have attended meetings this winter pertinent to the health of the lakes

and ponds in the watershed. The KLWA Newsletter, "Watershed Views", will have full reports from the Milfoil Summit, held in Auburn on March 12 and from the Maine Water Conference, held in Augusta on March 19. If you are not on the KLWA mailing list, and would like to read about what has been happening this winter, e-mail awilliams001@sprintmail.com.

The Annual KLWA Meeting will be held this summer at the VFW Hall on July 12. There will be a Social Hour starting at 8:45 A.M., with the Business Meeting starting at 9:30 A.M., followed by a talk given by Tom Huntington, of the US Geological Survey. Tom's research interests involve effects of climate change on lakes and estuaries. This promises to be a very interesting meeting, and we hope you will join us.

Conservation Easements 2007

We began the year with 13 conservation easements totaling 784 acres. We ended the year, having received conservation easements on an additional 7 properties, increasing easement holdings to 1,076 acres of mostly privately own land. Some highlights of each are:

- **A 74 acre agricultural and working forest easement with 1,800 +/- feet along Route 5 and over 2,300 feet along Martin Brook.**
- **An adjacent 44 acre working forest easement with 650 feet of Kezar Lake shore frontage and 600 feet frontage on Route 5.**
- **A 108 acre working forest easement protecting the watershed basin and all 4,111 feet of Weymouth Pond shore frontage.**
- **A 45 acre working forest easement with 2,538 feet of frontage on Horseshoe Pond.**
- **An 11 acre forested easement with 665 feet of frontage on the Lower Bay of Kezar Lake.**
- **And 10 acres in Westways, adjacent to the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve**

It is important to note that these lands remain privately owned and thus public access is not insured and should not be assumed. Each owner reserves the right to permit, control or restrict public access. Please respect private property rights.

Profiles in Volunteering: Ellen & Dennis Smith

In our ongoing series, the GLLT continues to recognize the many individuals who give their time and talents to make the Greater Lovell Land Trust an effective community organization. We'd like every member of our community to get to know these valued volunteers better and to appreciate the expertise and dedication they've contributed to our efforts to preserve and protect our land and resources. This profile focuses on Ellen and Dennis Smith. Dennis and Ellen are part of a team of twelve docents who lead our diverse series of Walks and Hikes in the summer. Dennis has also served as a member of the Board of Directors for the past 5 years.

Let Ellen and Dennis tell you themselves why becoming a volunteer for the GLLT is so important for them.

"We love the outdoors as a place for hiking and observing the plants and animals that make up the forested landscape. Although we have lived in California since the 1960s and have grown to love its natural history, we both grew up in the Northeast, Ellen in Lexington, Mass., and Dennis in North Syracuse, NY. We both lived near and played in woods, swamps, and open fields. Getting to spend summers in Maine is like coming home to the world we loved in our childhood. It is a treat to re-acquaint



ourselves with and apply more adult knowledge to this special environment.

"We volunteered for GLLT for three reasons. First, we wanted to find a way to contribute to the GLLT's mission of protecting lands in the Kezar Lake and surrounding watersheds. Second, we wanted a way to (re)learn more about the environment in which we grew up and to share this knowledge with others. Third, it provides an excellent way to get out onto the wonderful and varied preserves GLLT oversees.

"We both lead scheduled nature hikes on various GLLT preserves as part of GLLT's docent program. We also participate in hikes led by other docents. Ellen particularly enjoys leading hikes for families with chil-

dren. Dennis also maintains the database of the plant and animal resources found on GLLT's preserves to support the organization's land stewardship mission. With the help of Ellen and other docents, he organizes weekly surveys on GLLT properties, and adds new observations to the database. This database grew out of a similar project Dennis has carried out for many years for San Francisco Bay Area parks and preserves.

"Our knowledge is like the South Platte River, a mile wide and an inch deep, although Dennis has become quite good at identifying plants using field guides. Still, we characterize ourselves as knowledgeable amateurs, and look forward to our docent hikes as a way to learn more about the land and to share this knowledge with participants. Frequently they tell us things we never knew!"

If you'd like to learn more about the natural resources on GLLT properties, go to www.gllt.org, follow the link to GLLT Preserves, select your favorite preserve from the list, and view a printable checklist of plants, birds, mammals, and reptiles/amphibians/fish.

If you'd like to join Ellen and Dennis in volunteering for the Greater Lovell Land Trust, please contact Paula Hughes at (207) 925-6846.

Opportunities to Volunteer

Volunteers

are our foundation. As our programs grow the volunteer opportunities are greater today than ever before. Please consider bringing some of your time and talents to our programs. Paula Hughes, our Volunteer Coordinator, can help guide you to activities that match your interests and the organization's needs. Contact her at 925-6846 or hughes.paula@yahoo.com

Some of our current opportunities include the following:

- **Persons interested leading themed workshops on "Creativity and the Landscape" developed specifically for GLLT Members.**
- **Persons that can be on call for assistance with mailings 2-3 times per year**
- **Writers that can compose articles of interest for our newsletters and "Land Trust Notes".**
- **Persons interested in learning how to write conservation easements and work with area landowners in completing their projects. This is an area of specialty that will require an investment of time, depending upon what previous knowledge the person(s) have. An interest in legal documents and knowledge of sustainable land use practices is helpful.**
- **A website manager who can make edits to the site and add new pages as they are developed. The website is managed with Adobe Contributor software.**
- **Cranberry pickers for a few hours in the first two weeks of October each year.**
- **Property management volunteers including multiple tasks such as trail maintenance, new trail layout and construction, boundary maintenance, kiosk repair and updates, etc.**

Opening the Trail at the

The Kezar River Reserve, located off Route 5 just north of Lovell Village, was owned by the Bear Paw Timber Company during the 1970's and 1980's. When Bear Paw disposed of local properties in the 1990's, this tract was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in recognition of its unusual character and value as river-front habitat. The Nature Conservancy owned the property for ten years and developed a timber harvesting management plan which would encourage the long term health of the one-hundred acre forest. The TNC recognized that this relatively small tract was remote from other TNC properties and presented a burden to their staff which could be relieved by partnering with the GLLT. Thus, the property was given to the GLLT in 2003, with the understanding that it would be managed in accordance with the TNC plan, and that it would be open for use by the public in accordance with the GLLT's stewardship policies.

During the summer of 2007, members of the GLLT Properties Commission laid out and flagged an appropriate trail about one mile long, and recorded the trail coordinates using a GPS (Global Positioning System) device. The coordinates were passed on to GLLT's mapping vendor who created a map of the property showing its bounds, topography, streams, surrounding features and the location of the trail.

The trail departs from the former log yard and runs downstream on a high bank along the Kezar River to a point where it crosses the road to the landing.

From this point, a side trip to the landing, suitable for canoe launching when the water is up, is suggested. The landing is adjacent to a small peninsula, which is an attractive spot for river otters to consume their catch. A careful look will almost certainly reward the visitor with one or more "otter rolls" where otters have discharged the digested remains of their meals. Examination of this "scat" will reveal clues to some of the species consumed. Beavers have also been active in this area. Numerous beaver "chews" can be seen in the area of the landing. Another possible sign of beaver presence could be the underwater excavated open channel which could be an entrance to a lodge in the bank under the peninsula on which the observer is standing. This channel is located on the east side (river side) of the peninsula under two or three feet of water and is about six inches wide and two or three feet long. It is speculated that the channel was dug to provide access to the lodge at a time when the ice was very thick and blocked the lodge entrance. Although the channel was clearly visible during the summer of 2007, it could be obscured later by shifting silt if it is not currently in use.

The peninsula is a fine, quiet place to observe wildlife of all sorts, including waterfowl and numerous other bird species, as they move through this isolated spot in search of the next meal.

Retreating back up the landing road about a hundred yards brings the walker back to the trail crossing point. The trail continues a short distance through the woods and then drops into a deep

ravine with a perpetual stream meandering through it. The stream occasionally disappears under the ground and the tangled roots of the old trees growing in the cool, damp environment of the ravine. After this totally unexpected experience, the trail climbs back up to the mixed forest, which was selectively logged in 2005 in accordance with the TNC timber management plan. The trail now follows a skidder road used in this recent cutting project and the small hardwood stumps cut for the road construction have sprouted aggressively in the short time since the cutting. There is lots of evidence of the presence of deer and moose who are browsing the tender tips of these rapidly growing shoots. Since these animals have only lower incisors, they tend to tear the browsed stems rather than cut them off neatly as with a pair of scissors. Judging from the vast number of these torn ends of browsed shoots, this area has become a favorite dinner site for these local residents.

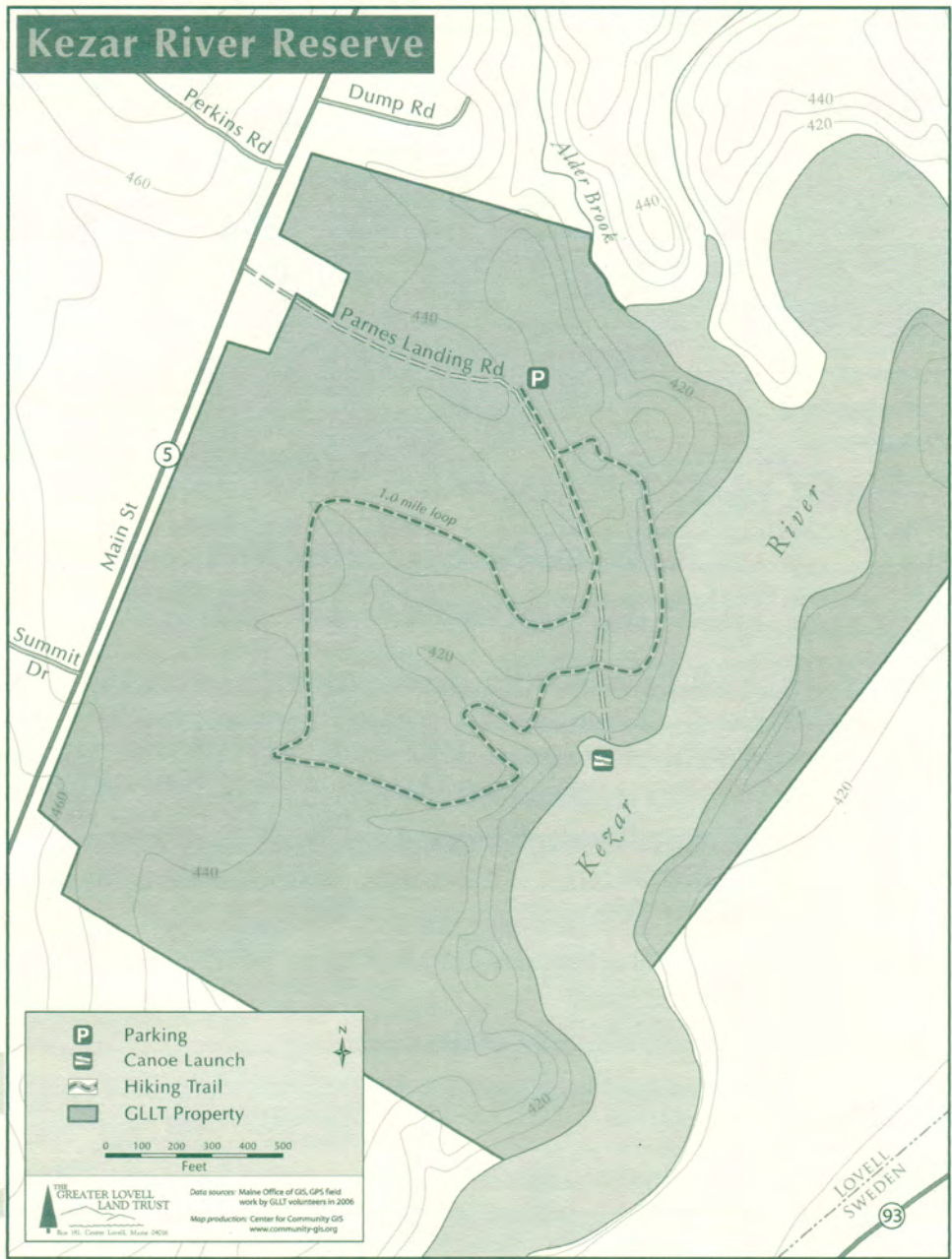
As the trail returns to the starting point, it crosses a small stream where a "quicksand" sign identifies an area of soft, wet sand. This spot marks the beginning of the ravine through which the trail crossed earlier. It is believed that the ravine was formed over thousands of years by a phenomenon known as "headwall erosion" whereby the fine sand is eroded and carried away to the river by the water in the stream. The stream, of course, may have been much larger in past geologic times.

Kezar River Reserve

by Bob Winship

This interesting trail needed to be cut out of the forest and marked so it could be followed easily by visitors to the Reserve. That job was done in the late summer of 2007 by friends who responded to the GLLT's request for volunteers which appeared in the Newsletter. The first part of the trail was cut and marked on a warm, clear day with the very able help of Steve and Cindy Buckley and their two young boys. Each of the workers was equipped with a pair of loppers to cut the branches and small saplings along the trail which had been flagged earlier. The trail was also marked with the GLLT's permanent white-background color-coded trail tags. A week later, Ken Angell, a regular summer visitor to Lovell, helped to finish the trail work. Both days were filled with hard work and good spirit.

The Kezar River Reserve is now open for use by the public. The entrance is found opposite the big sign in front of the Wicked Good Store. The woods road leads to a large parking area which formerly served as a log yard. Trail maps will be available in the parking area at a temporary site and a kiosk should be in place by mid-summer. Don't miss this special place this next summer. You will be very surprised at what's just off Route 5 opposite the Wicked Good.



Have you considered naming the GLLT in your estate plans?

Many of our members have spent a lifetime around our waters, our forests, our villages and our communities. These are places of warm and lasting memories. The GLLT is committed to preserving our lands for future generations in perpetuity, and for this we must build our endowment. It is our hope that those who have appreciated

the unique qualities of this place might consider leaving a legacy in their wills to the Greater Lovell Land Trust. For more information on planned giving, contact Paula Hughes of the GLLT Development Committee at 207-925-1056.

Like to Shop on the Internet?

Goodsearch/Shopping Benefits GLLT
Take a Moment—Its Simple, Easy and Free!!

What if the GLLT earned a **percentage** of your purchase every time you shopped on-line? Well, now we can! The GLLT is registered with Good Search as a recipient of sales and advertising revenues generated from the daily internet searches of people like you. For every purchase you make through goodsearch.com, sponsoring merchants will contribute to the GLLT. Here's how:

1. Go to <http://www.goodsearch.com> and add GoodSearch as one of your computer search options, or better yet make GoodSearch your homepage. Both options are easily accessed with one click at the bottom of the GoodSearch homepage.
2. At the same time enter the "Greater Lovell Land Trust" in the box entitled "I'm Supporting", thus directing contributions to the GLLT.
3. Ask your family and friends to do the same.
4. Click on the Goodshop icon to access participating merchants such as eBay, Amazon.com, Best Buy, and Kohl's.

GoodSearch.com is a service powered by Yahoo. Thank you for making us the charity of your choice.



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LOOK INSIDE FOR *Summer Programs* SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION

GREATER LOVELL LAND TRUST
SPECIAL SUMMER PROGRAMS SECTION

A SLIDE SHOW AND WILDLIFE EXHIBITS FEATURING

Sue Morse
OF "KEEPING TRACK"

A nature photographer and nationally renowned tracker
AUGUST 16, 2008 • 6 TO 9 PM

AT LAKES REGION HIGH SCHOOL • BRIDGTON, MAINE

COFFEE AND DESSERT TO FOLLOW THE PRESENTATION

We would appreciate a donation of \$5.00 at the door.

The Greater Lovell Land Trust, along with the Lakes Environmental Association and Loon Echo Land Trust, is sponsoring an evening with Susan Morse. The program will showcase an extensive wildlife exhibit, including track molds, examples of wildlife sign, pelts, skulls and more. A slide show with stunning wildlife photography taken by Sue Morse herself will also be featured. This is a fun educational event for the entire family.

Susan Morse is a nationally recognized naturalist and habitat specialist with thirty years of experience tracking and interpreting wildlife uses of habitat. She has been an active participant in the Western Forest Carnivores Committee. She is also a founding member of the Northeast Carnivore Conservation Working Group. Her research focuses on cougar, bobcat, black bear, and Canada lynx.

In 2001 Susan was the recipient of the Franklin Fairbanks Award for her lifelong creative and dedicated service to enriching the awareness and understanding of the natural world among the residents of New England.

"Sue is one of the most capable and experienced naturalists in the United States."

— Harley Shaw, retired biologist with the

Arizona Fish and Game Department and an international expert on mountain lions.

Susan founded "Keeping Track" in 1994 to train local trackers to locate and monitor wildlife in their communities to provide information to towns and regional land planners.

Susan's work has been featured in many national publications including Smithsonian, Audubon, Vermont Life and "The Woods Scientist", a book by Stephen R. Swinburne, published by Houghton Mifflin in 2002.

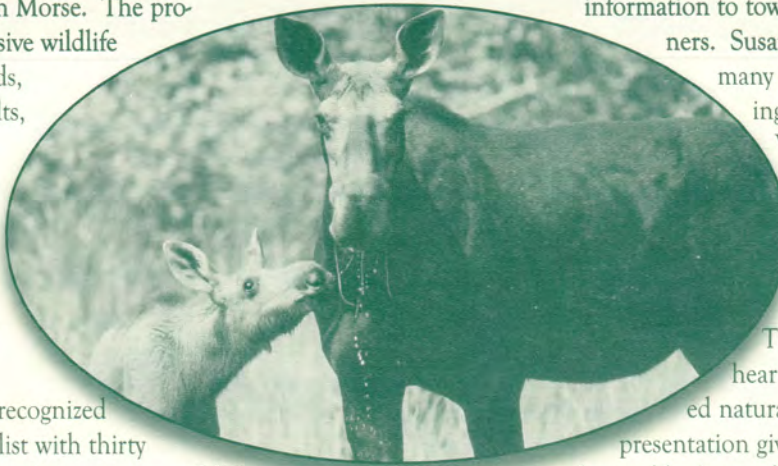
This is a rare opportunity to hear from one of the most talented naturalists in the country. Susan's presentation gives audiences the opportunity to enter the world of animals whose life and well being are essential to maintain healthy ecosystems and the quality of life that defines Maine.

Please contact Kevin Harding at kharding55@gmail.com if additional information is needed.

"... Sue is more than an expert guide and authority on flora and fauna. She is a wonderful storyteller, and the way she is able to transport you into her world of bobcats, bear, coyote and other friends is nothing short of magic. Through stories, tracks, signs, and occasional sightings their world comes to life.

At the end of the day you will feel as if you know them a bit better, as if you have been a privileged guest in their home..."

— Harley Shaw



Natural History Talks

SPONSORED BY THE GREATER LOVELL LAND TRUST

Wednesday Evenings in July and August
7:30 PM, Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

July 9: The Eastern Cougar: Fact or Fiction

Kevin Harding, Amateur Naturalist

Several individuals have reported seeing a cougar in Lovell. Could it be that these fascinating predators are returning to New England, as did the coyote and fisher? Perhaps these sightings in Maine and neighboring states are just misidentifications or sightings of pet cougars that have been illegally released. We will look at all the evidence, learn how to identify cougar tracks and sign, and discuss the controversy surrounding this unique animal.

July 16: Tracking the Ghost Bear

David Brown, Professional Naturalist and Tracker

Endowed by Native Americans with mythic qualities, the black bear slips through the forest in the gathering dusk like a ghost. But it leaves evidence of its passage behind that can be read by the careful observer. This slide program will present bear tracks and sign that can be interpreted to reconstruct much of the secret life of this fascinating wild animal.

July 23: Birdsong and Human Language: Same or Different

Moira Yip, Professor of Phonetics and Linguistics

In the animal kingdom it is the songs of birds, not the calls of primates, that most resemble human language. This talk looks at birdsong through the eyes of a linguist: how it is learned, the brain structures producing it, and the patterns of songs themselves.

July 30: Everything You Wanted to Know About Bats But Were Afraid to Ask

Sarah Blodgett, Naturalist and Environmental Educator

Bats have a bad reputation; however, they are actually very beneficial critters to encourage in your yard. Join bat lover Sarah Blodgett in exploring the lives of these mysterious creatures, and then step outside with Sarah and her secret bat detector to see what we can discover.

August 6: "Lovell Naturally"

Dr. Robert C. Williams, Historian and Author

Explore the natural history of Lovell based on the author's research for his book, "Lovell's Town, From Howling Wilderness to Vacationland in Trust" (2007). From the Ice Age to the present, Lovell and western Maine have been subject to natural forces - geology, geography, climate, water, the forest, wildlife, and ecology - unique to the region. The distinction between what is "natural" and "human" in our environment is not always as clear as it seems.

August 13: The Importance and Beauty of Mushrooms

Laurie Leonard, Past President of the Maine Mycological Association.

Laurie will discuss the importance of mushrooms and fungi in Mother Nature and, with the help of slides, will show their diversity and beauty. In addition, Laurie will discuss some of the characteristics to look for in trying to tell the difference between the deadly and the edible ones.

2008 Calendar for Summer Walks & Fall Hikes

July 3. 9 to 11. Senior. Heald Pond. This walk will explore plants and animal sign along the wide flat trail that enters this preserve.

July 10. 9 to 12. Active. Sucker Brook. We will focus on the bear activity in this area and examine a bear tree, a bear skull, and bear feeding activity. If we are lucky we may find a bear track or scat.

July 17. 9 to 11. Family. Sucker Brook. A walk especially designed for school age children to explore the forest and wetlands.

July 17. 9 to 11. Heald Pond. Gentle. We will look for medicinal and edible plants along roadsides and in the Heald Pond area.

July 24. 8:30 to 12. Family. Lords Hill. Meet at the GLLT office on Route 5. A hike for parents and children (ages 8 and over) to the summit of Lord's Hill. We will explore and go rock hunting for old feldspar, quartz and mica in the open mine. Bring a back pack. The only rule is, what you want to take home you have to carry out yourself!

July 31. 9 to 12:30. Active. Great Brook. Meet at the Heald Pond Parking area and carpool to the entrance at Hut Road. We will hike up along Great Brook to view the interesting stone walls, cellar holes, and remnants of times past.

August 7. 9 to 11. Casual. Stockford. We will focus on wildflowers and the forest management of this preserve. We will walk to the top of a small hill to enjoy the view.

August 7. 9 to 12. Active. Flat Hill. Meet at the Heald Pond parking area. We will climb Flat Hill and enjoy and explore the plant and animal sign in the area.

August 14. 9 to 12. Active. Sucker Brook Outlet Preserve. Meet at the Chip Stockford Preserve. This is a new GLLT preserve that abuts Sucker Brook as it enters Kezar Lake. We will walk skidder roads and discuss forest secession after a harvest.

August 21. 10 to 12:30. Active. Heald Pond. We will focus on the efforts of plants to reproduce themselves as we examine seeds and spores. We will walk along the trail to the viewpoint at the summit of Whiting Hill.

August 28. 9 to 11. Senior. Heald Pond. This walk will look along a level path for emerging mushrooms.

September 13. 9 to 2. Active. Pleasant Mountain. Meet at the trailhead (drive past Shawnee Peak Ski Area parking lot, heading south on Mountain Road to a small parking area on the left side of the road next to FR 54). We will take the Ledges trail 3.6 miles round trip. This is a 3.5 hour hike. Be sure to pack a lunch to eat at the summit (2006 feet). Note: In the event of rain, call 207-727-3018 or 207-807-8519 to find out if the hike is canceled.

September 20. 9 to 3. Active. Blueberry Mountain. Meet at the trailhead. Go north on route 13 past the parking lot for Baldface. Look for a white pickup on the left before the turn to the Basin on the right. We will drive in to the Stone House parking lot and hike up the steep side of the mountain and come down the gradual slope. National Forest parking permit or Golden Age Pass required.

October 4. 9 to 3. Active. The Basin. Meet at the trailhead. Drive north on route 13 past Baldface and look for a sign on the left to the Basin parking lot. We will hike to Hermit Falls and the Basin Overlook. National Forest parking permit or Golden Age Pass required.

For the Love of Lovell's Loons New Family Program

WHERE:
The Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

WHEN:
July 18, August 1 or August 8, 10 to 11 A M

What have you always wanted to know about Loons, but were afraid to ask? Please join us for a fun-filled and informative family event, specifically designed for parents and their children ages 6 to 10. Through the use of pictures, videos, props and a spirited discussion, everyone will be treated to a light-hearted look at the Loon. We hope that you and your children come away with a greater appreciation for this remarkable creature. We also hope to spark an interest that will last a lifetime.

Natural History Mini-Course Offered in July

The Greater Lovell Land Trust will be offering a free natural history mini-course this summer. The course will be held on two consecutive days, July 22 and 23, 2008, and is designed for anyone over the age of 18. Up to 8 people can be accommodated.

Many who participated in our programs have requested a more intensive experience to help them better enjoy their own forest walks. The goal of the program is quite simple—to enjoy safely the forest by getting to know it better. This program will cover:

USING MAP, COMPASS AND GPS
SAFETY IN THE WOODS
ANIMAL TRACKING
BIRDING
WOODLAND CREATURES
READING HISTORIC FEATURES
BASIC BOTANY

In such a short amount of time, we will only scratch the surface, but we can certainly have fun in the process. This is not intended to be an athletic experience. It is hoped that many participants will also share their own knowledge on the topics. Most of the work will be field experience, complimented by suggested readings. Although you will be able to identify most of the common trees, plants and wildlife after the experience, the real focus is to understand how the forest works as a whole.

To register, please call the office at (207) 925-1056, or e-mail Tom Henderson at tomgllt@earthlink.net or Kevin Harding at kharding55@gmail.com. Details as to the time and place will be provided at the time of registration.

As with all GLLT experiences, the course is free!

2008 Walks & Hikes

Once again the GLLT is happy to provide a variety of outdoor experiences designed to serve adults, families, and all those who wish to get out in the woods. We have some new offerings this year as well as traditional events to choose from. Our walks are free and led by trained docents. Docents will guide visitors on trails and point out important natural features, identify plants, identify animal sign, and help participants learn to read the forested landscape. No prior sign up is necessary.

Please bring appropriate clothing, water, bug repellent, and good walking shoes. Pets are not invited. Car pooling is encouraged. Families are always welcome, but there are also special programs specifically geared for younger children over age 5. Please note: due to the increased incidence of Lyme disease in our area, we strongly recommend that participants wear long pants on all walks and use insect repellent.

Cancellation Policy

In the past, we have run all of our programs with a "rain or shine" policy, but our experience in recent years warrants a change. It seems a mistake to have people drive to a trailhead only to agree that the weather is so uncomfortable that the walk is canceled. Please call 207-925-1205 if you have a question about cancellation due to weather.

Guidelines for Walks

- An **active walk** is on developed and rough trails up and down hill.
- A **casual walk** is on developed trail on mostly level terrain.
- A **senior walk** is designed for those who prefer a relaxed experience on easy terrain.
- A **family walk** is designed especially for families with school age children.

Directions

The **Heald Pond** walks will take place at the Heald and Bradley Reserve. From Lovell, drive north on Route 5 and turn right on Slab City Road. Then proceed a short distance over a bridge to a small parking area on your left past the launching area. A docent will meet you there.

The **Sucker Brook** walks will use the Sucker Brook Preserve off Horseshoe Pond Road. From Lovell, drive north on Route 5. Turn left onto the West Lovell Road and follow over the bridge, continuing to Foxboro Road (a left at the next fork). Drive about two miles to Horseshoe Pond Road on your right. Proceed down this dirt road a short distance to the Horseshoe Pond parking area.

The **Kezar River Tract** walks will meet across from the "Wicked Good Store" where a good forest road enters the land. Look for orange flags at the road entrance. Proceed carefully to an open parking area.

The **Stockford Reserve** walks will begin at the preserve. From Route 5, take the West Lovell Road over the bridge and then the first dirt road on your left (Ladies Delight). The preserve parking lot is on your right a short distance down the road.