



Newsletter

Summer 2019

Listening to the Landscape

PHOTO: JILL RUNDLE

Notes from President & Interim Executive Director, Jill Rundle

After a busy and eventful year, the coming season promises to be even more interesting and exciting.

The GLLT's work focuses on the future, planning beyond even our own lifetimes. The work of conservation doesn't slow down for planning meetings. The landscape outside our windows is always changing, and our incredible volunteers, our board, and our small, capable staff are constantly working on projects on the lands that will help to prepare for an uncertain climate future.

The year has been busy with mapping and writing; maintaining trails and opening summit views; collaborating with neighboring organizations and leading education programs; monitoring the conservation lands; and planning for the future. But there are always moments to stop and listen to the landscape that fills the hearts of our community in these watersheds.

It has been about 150 years since the great deforestation of New England ended. Two hundred years of pioneering and settlement had opened the land throughout the region. The forests had been clear-cut for ships, building, and fuel; and fields opened up for agriculture and grazing—edged with miles of stone walls. But following the Civil War, the farms in the New England states were gradually abandoned as logging and agriculture migrated west.

In the early 20th century the shores of our lakes and streams were still open to the water's edge, but the forests—in the slow manner of trees—were regenerating. The stone walls built with the ambitions of the early settlers were gradually swallowed into the wildlands where they still wind through the understories of the woods. The shorelines that were once open to the rocky edges became vibrant riparian zones; the critical transition zones from water to woodland.

Now, development pressure is once again consuming our forests. In each of the last twenty years,

development has claimed 24,000 acres of New England forest. A century and a half of reforestation has ended. The northern tier forests of our area and beyond, however, are still largely intact. Our special forested landscape holds ecological, social, and economic opportunities that will be critical for our future.

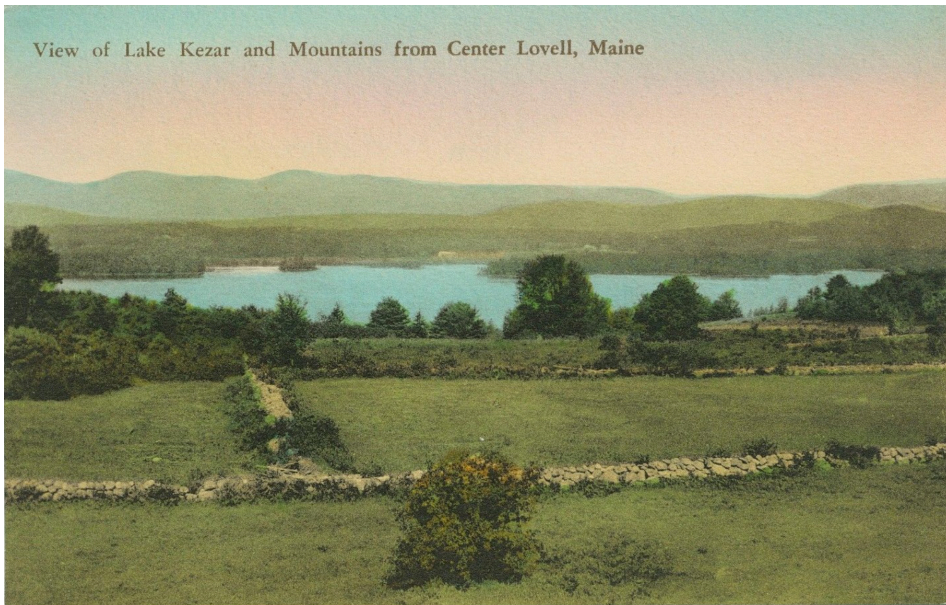
The work of the Greater Lovell Land Trust protects the water, the woods, and the wildlife in the Greater Lovell area. In the northeastern woodlands, Native Americans share a belief in the interconnectedness of all things and describe a seventh-generation principle of environmental choices.

Decisions made today should consider the next seven generations, yet unborn, that will come after us.

Development and building, fragmentation of land parcels, loss of state and federal funding for environmental protection, pests and blights attacking native species, and the growing threat of climate change all contribute to grim future scenarios. But the work of land conservation and environmental protection - *continued*

Notes from Jill - continued from page 1

View of Lake Kezar and Mountains from Center Lovell, Maine



View of Kezar c.1910

can help shape a scenario that keeps the woodlands and the wildlife healthy and thriving, and considers the needs of human and natural communities.

The forests and open undeveloped lands provide benefits that are inextricably linked to the health of the environment, the economy, the residents, and the wildlands. It is the forests that filter the waters flowing into our lakes and aquifers, hold the soils against erosion, help to offset the effects of drought and of increasingly extreme weather, and sequester carbon from the atmosphere. The undeveloped lands provide corridors for wildlife migration and habitats for native species under pressure from encroaching human use. GLLT is joining with our friends, neighbors, and like-minded organizations to steward the land, increase land protection, and assure that development in our towns and cities considers impacts for the generations to come.

Protecting open lands in northern New England will be critical to responding to challenges of changes in climate, movement of wildlife, and future needs of human populations. The wildlands and woodlands, farms and forests, our towns and even cities are even more interconnected today than they were seven generations ago.

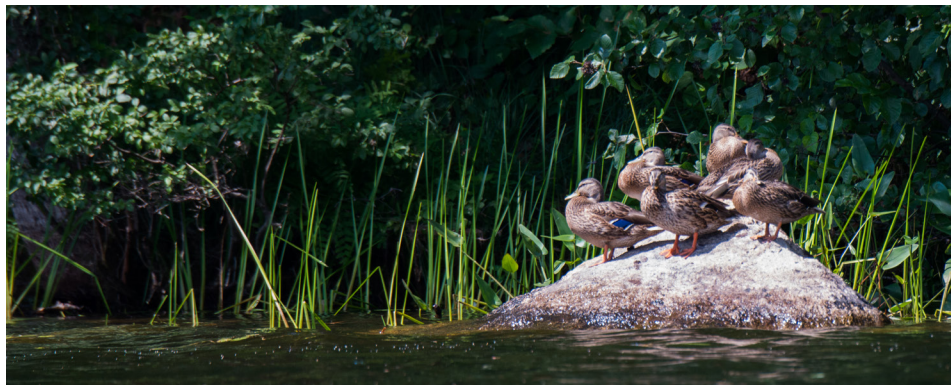
Forests drive a vibrant tourism industry and, perhaps most important, soak up and store the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving climate change, even as they are tied to our food supply, wood products, and quality of life.

This spring, the melting snow of a long winter opened up wetlands for the returning sandhill cranes and migrating flocks of waterfowl. Spring runoff

swamped shorelines, but opened the ice for our loon population. And the long April rains finally let up. The rhythms of the seasons are changing, but the GLLT works to preserve and protect this complex ecosystem and provides open lands for public use, trails to explore, and a program that is creating the next generation of conservationists.

The conservation work of the Greater Lovell Land Trust is part of a larger movement working to maintain the natural infrastructure that will benefit the community and the region now and for the generations to come. As we make our environmental decisions today, the seventh generation must be part of the choices we make. Your support and donations to the annual fund are a key part of our ability to continue the work that we have to do.

We thank you for your generosity and welcome you to a growing movement of landowners and community members who are listening to the landscape and are helping to ensure clean water, clear air, and an environment that will be special for seven generations to come.



Ducks in a riparian habitat

JOIN US!

It is through your continued generosity that we are able to do important conservation work for our community. Your support also enables us to deliver high quality programs and events, as well as year-round public access to the many miles of trails maintained on GLLT properties.

Notes from the Associates



Volunteers and Board Members help clear the Lower Bay of Kezar Lake of trash

As the first breezes of spring whistle through the budding trees, we are eager with anticipation for the upcoming exciting events and projects.

It was an eventful winter, trudging through miles of deep snow to complete the GPS work required for mapping our properties (check out our updated trail maps and brochures that can be found on our website and at our kiosks). When the weather conditions were too inclement for field projects, we continued our work towards Land Trust Alliance accreditation and collaborated with nearby land trusts and community organizations to add new events to the schedule.

With the support of the **Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library**, we will be creating a storybook trail at the Kezar River Reserve. Pages of the children's book *Pond* by Jim LaMarche will be displayed along the loop trail throughout the summer so visitors can read the book as they walk along the trail. In August, we will collaborate with the **Hewnoaks Artist Colony** to present the first Wild Light Art Exhibit, and throughout the summer and fall we will participate in the Trekking Through Time series in collaboration with several nearby land trusts.

This summer, we plan to utilize the great energy and knowledge of our volunteers to complete a variety of projects. Our exceptional team of docents will be going off trail this summer and working with us to identify and map the natural communities on our properties. We will also continue the **Thursday Trail Crew** outings that we started last year—we'll welcome volunteer help on stewardship projects for a couple of hours in the morning or afternoon. In addition, we are establishing a volunteer monitoring team, and providing training for annual conservation easement monitoring, which is a special opportunity to explore lands not generally available for public use. If you or anyone you know has any interest in volunteering with trail maintenance or easement monitoring, we encourage you to reach out and join us.

We look forward to seeing you out on the trails and at our events!

—Aidan & Dakota



At Sabbatus Mt. last summer

WANT TO VOLUNTEER? – INFO@GLLT.ORG

GLLT ANNOUNCES NEW HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM: NATURE EXPLORERS

Docent Julianne Coombs recently became a certified Maine Master Naturalist, which required her to undertake an intense course of study about all things flora and fauna. The final requirement was to complete a capstone project, which must involve a volunteer teaching component.

Given that she homeschools her four children, it seemed only natural for Juli to create a program that would involve leading other like-minded families along the trails. We recently asked her to explain the inspiration behind this undertaking.

Said Juli, “Several years ago, I showed up for a guided walk carrying a two-year-old on my back. I was also accompanied by my four-, six- and seven-year-old children. It was a bold move and surprisingly we weren’t turned away.

Instead, the kids were issued hand lenses and they stopped to look at every feather, rock, tree, and fern. Gracious docents identified anything the kids showed an interest in and they were praised for their curiosity. Naturally, we returned to every walk that summer. And the following summer as well.

Seeing a pattern, I was eventually asked to be a docent. Each new thing my children learned became a part of their vocabulary and going outside became more than playtime. They were noticing more of the world around them and eager to have their questions answered. We delighted in our new knowledge and it made us appreciate the beauty around us even more.

In 2018, I had the opportunity to enroll in the **Maine Master Naturalist Program**. My MMN capstone project involved creating a Homeschool Program for the GLLT called Nature Explorers.

While GLLT’s mission of protecting land in the Greater Lovell area is pretty great, as a homeschool parent, I love how environmental education is a fundamental part of their mission as well. We thoroughly enjoy exploring the spectacular nature preserves in Lovell while learning about the world around us at the same time. We just want to share that with our friends, too.”

So far, the group, which varies in size each month, has decorated a Christmas tree for the critters, learned about and practiced their tracking skills, searched for signs of spring, and explored a vernal pool. For each program, Juli develops a theme, though she’s always open to other natural distractions that catch the children’s attention.

Homeschool families are invited to join in the fun. FMI: leigh.hayes@gllt.org.



Juli teaching the Nature Explorers

Greater Lovell Land Trust Endowment Campaign



Monarch Butterfly - a species you can help protect!

Help us reach our goal to raise **\$1 million dollars** for the GLLT Endowment Fund to help preserve the ecosystems and natural resources that we value so much in our community.

Your contributions allow us to continue our important work:

- Monitoring over **5,000 acres** of conserved land.
- Maintaining over **20 miles** of hiking trails and outlooks that we steward.
- Providing year-round educational **walks, talks and events** for children and adults.
- Training young people to become the environmental leaders of the future.
- Planning for the environment of the future and advocating for thoughtful public and private land use.

Our Board of Directors has already pledged over **\$100,000** and other generous donors are bringing our fundraising goal within reach.

If you would like to pledge your support, or would like more information, please contact Toni Stechler, Endowment Campaign Chair, antonia.stechler@gllt.com.

Use the enclosed envelope to send contributions to:
GLLT, PO Box 225, Lovell, ME, 04051.

SELF-GUIDED NATURE WALK

Each summer GLLT volunteers and interns, led by GLLT Docent and Maine Master Naturalist Joan Lundin, install informational signage along one of our trails.

Susan Winship, Ellen Smith, Moira Yip, Linda Wurm and Joyce White started the self-guided walk using signposts crafted by former board president, Bob Winship. Pam Katz and Nancy Hammond have joined the team and summer interns also help with the installation.

Designing the self-guided tour begins a year in advance, when the property is selected at the docents' annual meeting. Then comes the time and work of walking the trail and noting its particular flora.



Over the years, a standard set of information cards has been built, but each property has unique offerings, so there are always new cards to create. A photograph, common and scientific name, and a few key characteristics about each highlighted species are included and cards are positioned near the plant, shrub or tree. The research is completed over the winter so that cards are ready for spring installation.

Because Joan and her team walk the trail numerous times in preparation for the day's work, they know right where each sign belongs. The plan may change a bit if the species they wanted to feature isn't as prominent as hoped, but they're prepared with extra cards and can quickly produce a description for an alternate species. The fun part of the day occurs when hikers are encountered along the way who are already enjoying the work the team has completed.

We hope you, too, will partake of the self-guided hike around Ron's Loop at Five Kezar Ponds Reserve in Stoneham. This year's self-guided tour will be in place through August.



Wild Light Art Exhibition

The **Hewnoaks Artist Colony** and the **Greater Lovell Land Trust** will host a special one-day exhibition and gathering. The 2019 Wild Light Art Exhibition will showcase new and original artwork that celebrates the lands and waters in the Greater Lovell area — We seek to highlight our natural world and invite the creative world to seek inspiration in the woodlands and wilderness.

August 10, 3:00pm - 7:00pm

For more info and details visit hewnoaks.org



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@GREATERLOVELLANDTRUST

for events, walks, talks, and photos — plus facts about nature, and the environment. Plus links to blogs and resources that we find useful... Photos are by GLLT staff, board members, volunteers, friends, and you — direct message or tag us to see your photos posted.

2019 Event Calendar

June 15, 7:00 - 10:00 am

Breeding Birds: The Maine Bird Atlas is a citizen science project that depends on volunteers to collect data. Several of our docents are involved in this important conservation project and they'll help us hone our birding skills, while at the same time explaining the work they've been conducting to help update Maine's Bird Atlas.

Trailhead: TBD



Looking for birds with the docents

June 21, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Amazing Wetlands: Join the Lakes Environmental Association and the Greater Lovell Land Trust as we embark on a field trip exploring and comparing different watery places. Wetlands provide a myriad of vital ecosystem functions and unparalleled wildlife habitat but are often considered wasted space or places that need filling in. We will visit a floating bog, forested swamp, vernal pool and other wet places to learn about how they function, how they differ and why they are so special to Maine wildlife and to us. Space is limited. We are going to make a mess mucking about, please come prepared with shoes and clothing that can get wet and dirty, as well as drinking water, snacks and a lunch as we are making a day of it!

Pre-registration required:
alanna@mainelakes.org

Location: TBD, Bridgton and Lovell

July 10, 7:00 pm

Beavers: Stories, Myths, and Reality with Kevin Harding: Beavers are really important! Believe it or not, some of our country's current problems can be best understood by learning more about these natural architects. We all know a lot about them by witnessing their activities, so we are going to take a different approach. Instead of a lecture, we want to hear your "beaver stories," and your questions and concerns. We also have some questions for you to ponder as we jointly investigate the popular mythology and search for what is real. Please join us as we pool our knowledge and enjoy the process.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

July 11, 9:30 am - noon

Beaver Works: Join us for a guided hike through woods and beside streams inhabited by beavers. Along the way, we'll talk about how the beavers have modified the area as we look at dams, lodges, ponds and the final stages when the dam is gone and the natural community changes. Sturdy waterproof shoes are recommended.

Trailhead: Meet behind the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Rte 5, Lovell, to carpool

*July 12, 1:00 - 2:00 pm & 2:30 - 3:30

Predators: The Balance of Nature: The Chewonki Traveling Natural History Program will present a program about predators in the context of food webs and natural cycles. We learn some commonly-held myths about predators, and what problems do they face. Discussion of current events will emphasize the importance of predators in maintaining the world's ecological balance. As a special treat, participants will have the opportunity to study mounted animals and see three live, non-releasable predators.

Pre-registration required: (limit 40 per talk)
leigh.hayes@gllt.org or Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

***Due to the popularity of this talk, we are offering a second session beginning at 2:30 pm**

July 16, 10:00 am - noon

Connect to Our Natural World Through Poems and Short Prose with Judy Steinbergh: As part of our wellness series, we'll explore and reflect on our personal connections to the environment through the elements, seasons, birds and other wildlife. With inspiration from our surroundings, and short pieces in various styles and forms by poets and naturalists, we will draft our writing and share with the group. Adults and teens welcome. This poetry workshop is sponsored by the Greater Lovell Land Trust, Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, and Hewnoaks Artist Colony.

Pre-registration required: Sign up at Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Location: Hewnoaks Artist Colony, Route 5, Lovell

July 17, 7:00 pm

The BBC Wildlife Film Unit comes to Lovell with Moira Yip: PBS and the BBC Wildlife Unit joined forces last fall to film in New England. Moira Yip helped the BBC team plan their locations, and some of the footage was filmed at her house here in Lovell. The shows were broadcast both in the US and in the UK. She shares her story of how this came about, illustrated with her photos and with some BBC footage

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

July 18, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Honoring Lovell's Heritage: As part of the collaborative effort called the *Trekking Through Time Series* and with the help of the Lovell Historical Society, the Greater Lovell Land Trust will share the story of the families who farmed along the Heritage Trail at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve. A peek into their past will be revealed through stone foundations, walls, an old road, and a mystery structure.

Trailhead: Flat Hill parking lot at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve, far end of Heald Pond Road off of Slab City Road, Lovell

July 20, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Lovell Old Home Days: Look for the Greater Lovell Land Trust tent at the Recreation Field

Location: Smarts Hill Road, Lovell

July 23, 7:00 pm

Four Farm Forum moderated by Bob Katz: We all have a deep connection to our agricultural heritage. But . . . have you ever wondered what a typical day is like in the life of a local farmer? What worries and challenges do farmers face? What sustainable agricultural practices do they employ? How do these factors affect the health and productivity of the land? Joining us for a panel discussion will be representatives from four local farms: The Wards of Fly Away Farm; Roy Andrews, president of the Fryeburg Fair; Steve and Jeanne Eastman of Chester Eastman Homestead; and the Westons of Weston's Farm and Market.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell



Bumblebee on coneflower

July 24, 9:30 am - noon

Peeking Into Sustainable Agriculture: Join us for a tour of a local farm that follows sustainable agricultural practices. Learn what is involved in growing food, and how important farms' sustainable methods are to the health of the Earth and our Greater Lovell community. The farmers will be available to describe their site and answer questions.

Trailhead: Meet behind the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell, to carpool

July 26, 10:00 am - noon

A Hewnoaks and Nature Inspired Artist Sketchbook Workshop: As part of our wellness series, Pamela Moulton, visual artist and Hewnoaks Resident Manager, will lead an indoor/outdoor sketchbook

journaling workshop that will offer a peek into Hewnoaks secret places. We will explore nature and Hewnoak's hidden corners through observation, intentional curiosity, and focused awareness. We will look at inspiring Artist sketchbooks and experiment with mark making using traditional and scavenged drawing materials, so be prepared to forage and get creative. This workshop is open to all ages and no experience necessary. This walk is limited to 15 participants.

Pre-registration required:
leigh.hayes@gllt.org

Location: Hewnoaks Artist Colony, Route 5, Lovell

July 30, 7:00 pm

Connecting to the Landscape Poetry Reading: As part of our wellness series, we'll listen to the inspiring poems written by participants of the Hewnoaks Poetry Workshop. Even if you couldn't attend the workshop, you are welcome to join us and listen, or share a poem of your own. Light refreshments will be served.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

July 31, 7:00 pm

Monarchs at Risk with Don Bennett: Recent censuses show the smallest Monarch butterfly populations in Mexico and the west coast hibernacula in recorded history. Why is this happening? Is there anything we can do? Are drastic declines in the Monarch populations a sign of something more insidious? Come listen to Naturalist Don Bennett, PhD, and discover why this is such an important message for all of us.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 1, 9:30 am - noon

Monarchs in the Field: Monarch butterflies need milkweed plants to survive — as caterpillars they only eat milkweed and Monarch moms lay their eggs on the milkweed plant. We'll take a walk along a dirt road that abuts a farm field and river, where milkweed grows in abundance and search for Monarchs and other butterflies.

Location: Meet behind the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library to carpool.

August 3, 9:30 am - noon

Yoga in the Woods: As part of our wellness series, Yoga instructor Deborah Nelson, Ph.D., will lead us through a gentle to moderate Yoga experience under the trees. Ever wonder what it would be like to do a tree pose under a tree? Here's your chance. No experience is necessary and modifications to poses will be offered. All ages are welcomed and all that is required is a willingness to have your body, mind and spirit be in union with nature (the word Yoga means union, after all). We will walk, perform some poses, practice reflection, and listen to a poem or two to connect our Yoga practice to the outdoors.

Trailhead: TBD



Lovell Rec Summer Campers

August 7, 7:00 pm

Through Youthful Eyes: The GLLT's Interns and Lovell Recreation's Summer Campers are our future. We'll listen to the story of their summer adventures and appreciation of the natural world. The evening will conclude with an ice cream social to celebrate the accomplishments of these dynamic young people.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 8, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Lovell's Tallest Claim to Fame: The American Chestnut was once an important tree in the northern forest, though it has largely disappeared following the introduction of a fungus blight in the early 1900s. A few chestnut holdouts, however, remain in part due to natural variation and human efforts to bring them back. And the tallest one in North America happens to be located in Lovell. District Forester Shane Duigan of the Maine Forest Service will share the story of how it was discovered. We'll then hike to view some other chestnut trees at the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve.

Trailhead: Meet at the Fairburn parking lot (beyond the boat launch) on Slab City Road to carpool.

2019 Event Calendar

August 8, 7:00 pm

The Sound of the Wild Snail Eating:

Author Elisabeth Tova Bailey will read from and discuss her natural history/memoir with us via Skype. "An exquisite meditation on the restorative connection between nature and humans . . . As richly layered as the soil she lays down in the snail's terrarium: loamy, potent, and regenerative." —The Huffington Post. This event is co-sponsored by the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library and the GLLT.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 9, 1:00 pm

The Gentle Hawk with Bonny Boatman:

Did you know that the Northern Goshawk is a fierce hunter who stalks prey on foot and in the air? And yet, its scientific name, *Accipiter gentilis*, means the gentle hawk. Interestingly, the name derives from *Accipiter* (accipere: to grasp) meaning hawk, and *gentilis* meaning noble or gentle. Together, they refer to the Middle Ages when only nobility were permitted to own goshawks for falconry. Join us to see and hear about the many wonders of the remarkable and canny bird.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 10, 8:45 am

Greater Lovell Land Trust

Annual Meeting: Join the GLLT as we celebrate our accomplishments and discuss our plans for the future.

Location: VFW Hall, Smarts Hill Road, Lovell

August 10, 3:00 - 7:00 pm

Wild Light Art Exhibition: Join the GLLT and Hewnoaks Artists' Colony for a free admission one day art event that will showcase new and original artwork that celebrates the lands and waters in the Greater Lovell area — We seek to highlight our natural world and invite the creative world to seek inspiration in the woodlands and wilderness. FMI visit hewnoaks.org

Location: Hewnoaks, Route 5 Lovell

August 14, 7:00 pm

Birds of Namibia by Bonny Boatman: Due to the diversity of habitat in the Namibia region of southern Africa, 644 species of birds reside there. We will get to know several of these species and the fascinating behaviors that help them to survive the challenges of their particular habitat. You will leave this presentation amazed and feeling that...just for an hour..."We are not in Lovell anymore, Dorothy." Join us to learn about a bird that stomps to death its prey and another one that imprisons his mate.

Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 16, 1:00 pm

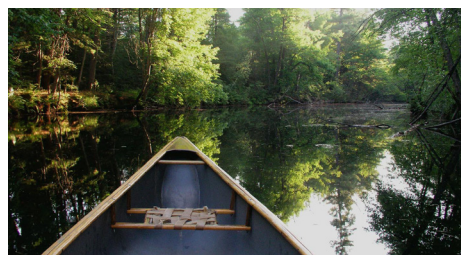
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Location: Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell

August 17, 9:30 am - noon

Tai Chi on the Trail: As part of our wellness series, Sun Style Tai Chi instructor Pam Katz, R.N., will introduce the opening move with its eight parts that are low impact and put little stress on muscles and joints as we circle around Perky's Path at the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve. Be sure to wear loose-fitting clothing for easy movement. Pam has been teaching Tai Chi in Florida for the past twenty years and Lovell for the last two.

Location: Perky's Path, Flat Hill parking lot at end of Heald Pond Road off Slab City Road, Lovell



Exploring the Kezar River

August 21, 6:30 pm

Batty About Bats: For this evening program, Naturalist Sarah Blodgett will help us explore the lives of these small, furry, flying mammals as we watch a nursery colony of mother bats emerge to feed at twilight. Insect repellent and flashlights or headlamps with a red filter suggested; binoculars may be useful before full dark.

Location: Meet at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library, Route 5, Lovell, at 6:30 to carpool to the site.



Mushrooms

*August 22, 9:30 am - noon & 1 - 3 pm

Mushrooms of Lovell: We'll meet the most common families of mushrooms (fungi) in our area and find out more about their natural history and ecological functions as we walk along the trail. This walk is limited to 20 participants.

Pre-registration is required:
leigh.hayes@gllt.org.

Location: TBD

***Due to the popularity of this walk, we are offering an afternoon session beginning at 1:00 pm.**

August 27, 2:30 - 5:00 pm

Haiku at Hewnoaks: As part of our wellness series, the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library will offer an indoor/outdoor haiku workshop with poet Kristen Lindquist. Ms. Lindquist will talk about the history of the form, which evolved as a nature poem, and how it's written today in the US. Participants will then venture outdoors for a ginko, which is a haiku walk during which we will write and share haiku.

Location: Hewnoaks Artist Colony, Route 5, Lovell

September 8, 12:30 - 3:00 pm

Forest Bathing: As part of our wellness series, Jeanne Christie, a Nature and Forest Therapy Guide, will lead a Forest Therapy walk. Forest Therapy Guiding is a practice that is gaining recognition within the U.S. and abroad. There is an increasing body of research identifying a variety of benefits from spending time in nature, especially when all senses are fully engaged. These range from blood pressure and stress levels to increased cognition and creativity. This walk is limited to 16 participants.

Pre-registration is required: Jeanne Christie at completewetlander@gmail.com.

Location: To be announced upon registration

September 14, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Great Maine Outdoor Weekend Paddle: We'll join with our friends from Upper Saco Valley Land Trust and paddle from Kezar Lake to Harbor Road on the Kezar Outlet Stream. Bring your own kayak, paddle, and PFD to explore the wetland habitat with us.

Pre-Registration required:
leigh.hayes@gllt.org or tberinger@usvlt.org

Location: TBD

September 21, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Taking the Temp: As we continue our celebration of Great Maine Outdoor Week(end) we'll circle Shell Pond. Periodically we'll pause to test the temperature and pH level of the brook, springs, pond, and outlet stream as we discuss the differences we observe and how they may affect aquatic life. We'll also take in the mountain views and enjoy lunch along the way. BYOL.

Trailhead: Deer Hill Road, Chatham, NH

September 28, 9:30 am - noon

A'pondering We Will Go: As part of our wellness series, we invite you to join us for a stop-and-go walk where we'll pause frequently to sketch, photograph, ponder and/or write about our observations. The beauty that surrounds us will be our inspiration. Bring a sketch pad, journal, camera, etc.

Trailhead: Fairburn parking lot beyond boat launch, Slab City Road, Lovell.

October 12, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

The Colors of Western Maine: A sea of autumn awesomeness will await us at the summit of The Mountain at Five Kezar Ponds Reserve. We'll climb up The Mountain trail and enjoy the views from Tom's Path as well as the summit. Our journey will then take us down the connector trail to Ron's Loop. Be sure to pack a lunch, plenty of water and camera for this hike.

Trailhead: The Mountain parking lot, Five Kezar Ponds Road, Stoneham

November 10, 12:30 - 3:00 pm

Sunday Beside Sucker Brook: Let's get a head start on Thanksgiving, and journey the trail at John A. Segur East where we'll take in the afternoon views of Sucker Brook, its plants in their winter forms, beaver lodges, and mountain views.

Location: John A. Segur East, Farrington Pond Road, off Timber Shores Road, Lovell

December 7, 9:30 am - noon

Christmas By the Homesteads: As part of the Maine Christmas Tree Scavenger Hunt, we'll travel the Homestead Trail and try to spot the tree decorated by a local 4-H group in conjunction with the GLLT Homeschool Nature Explorers. We'll bring along some pinecones, peanut butter, birdseed and other natural goodies to enhance the decorations. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

Trailhead: Homestead Trail from Gallie Trail parking lot, Route 5, Lovell

January 1, 2020, 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Fourth Annual First Day Hike: Join the GLLT to ring in 2020. We'll warm up with a climb to the summit of Whiting Hill and toast Lovell with hot chocolate and a sweet treat while enjoying the views from Kezar Lake to the White Mountains. Snowshoes or micro-spikes a must.

Trailhead: Fairburn parking lot beyond boat launch, Slab City Road, Lovell



Homeschool Group Exploring

TREKKING THROUGH TIME SERIES

A collaborative effort with our local conservation colleagues: Lakes Environmental Association, Upper Saco Valley Land Trust, Western Foothills Land Trust, and Loon Echo Land Trust.

June 26, 9:00 am - noon

Milling About Stevens Brook: Lakes Environmental Association and the Bridgton Historical Society will bring Bridgton's past to life as we step along the Stevens Brook Trail and view the remnants of former mill sites.

Trailhead: Meet at Bridgton Historical Society, 5 Gibbs Avenue, Bridgton

July 18, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Honoring Lovell's Heritage: The Greater Lovell Land Trust will share the story of the families who farmed along the Heritage Trail at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve.

Trailhead: Flat Hill parking lot at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve, far end of Heald Pond Road off Slab City Road, Lovell

August 31, 9:00 am - noon

Impressions of Painters: Upper Saco Valley Land Trust's Leita Monroe Lucas Preserve was once the home of American Impressionist painters Thomas Wilmer Dewing & Maria Oakey Dewing. Learn more about this couple, their works, and the land they inhabited.

Trailhead: Leita Monroe Lucas Preserve, Green Hill Road, Conway, NH

September 7, 10:00 am - noon

Evidence and Records of Land Use Over Two Centuries: Roberts Farm From Settlement to Present Day: Join Western Foothills Land Trust for coffee in the warming hut at Roberts Farm as we pour over census records, maps, and photos of this historic farm. We'll finish with a pleasant walk on the trails

Trailhead: Roberts Farm Preserve, 66 Roberts Road, Norway

October 5, 10 am - noon

A Walk back In Time: The Peabody-Fitch farm in South Bridgton once had the distinction of being the highest cultivated land in Cumberland County. Now efforts are underway by Loon Echo Land Trust to conserve the 252 acre "Peabody-Fitch Woods," which surrounds the Bridgton Historical Society's Narramissic Farm, the wonderful museum set on the eve of the Civil War. Join us for this unique tour of one of Bridgton's most important cultural resources.

Trailhead: Narramissic Farm, Narramissic Road, South Bridgton

Winter Education Update

The snow came early and lasted long. Such is winter in Maine. Many of us who live here made the most of it by getting out to explore both the GLLT properties and those of our neighbors.

In December, with the **Upper Saco Valley Land Trust**, we hiked to a Christmas tree decorated by local homeschooled families at the Chip Stockford Reserve, and then at the Andrews Preserve in Fryeburg. As the wind howled on January first, a group of us climbed up Sabbatus Mountain and toasted Lovell from the summit. In February, we joined **Lakes Environmental Association (LEA)** for an “I’m with the Trees” tour of their Highland Research Forest and then LEA joined us for our Porcupine Prowl on Flat Hill. Funny thing about that—we saw a porcupine at the Highland Research Forest, but where usually one wanders the summit of Flat Hill we found only fisher tracks that day. March found us tracking at the Wilson Wing Moose Pond Bog Preserve. And in April we joined with LEA again for a vernal pool exploration at the Highland Research Forest and another at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve.

In addition, our Tuesday Tracker group consisted of a number of eager participants who enjoyed exploring a variety of trails the first and third



The Trailblazers blowing bubbles to watch them freeze in February

Tuesday of each month. Our finds were many, but I think one of our fondest days was spent not far from Slab City Road at the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve where we found a variety of prints and patterns associated with red foxes and all kinds of weasels, including an otter by the dam. It didn't seem to matter how cold or windy the day dawned, the Trackers always delighted in being outdoors exploring and gaining a better understanding of their surroundings. We also had fun sharing the trail with

six boys from the **New Suncook Elementary School** who participated in the after-school program called Trailblazers that we offered through Lovell Recreation. With Rec Director Meg Dyer, and GLLT's Nancy Hammond and Sue Dwyer, the boys donned snowshoes or skis (although sometimes they preferred only their boots) and headed off into the woods to learn more about the mammals and trees behind the school. One especially fun event included blowing bubbles on a frigid February afternoon—and watching their structures change as they drifted with the cold breeze and along the snow's frozen surface.

Finally, Docent Juli launched a new program for homeschool families called Nature Explorers. You can read more about it on page 4.

So yes, it was an extended season but we had great fun exploring the winter world as seen throughout the GLLT properties. If you weren't able to join us, we hope you'll think about it in the future.

— Leigh Macmillen Hayes,
GLLT Education Director



The Tuesday Trackers outfitted in full winter attire

JOIN US!

NEWS FROM THE KEZAR LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Jim Stone, President

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the KLWA. It was on August 29th, 1969 that the Kezar Lake Gypsy Moth Fund voted to change its name to the Kezar Lake Association to better reflect the activities and interests of its members. The association started with few Board members and very little funding, but through the hard work and generosity of generations of members and trustees, the KLWA now offers a range of programs and services to fulfill our mission to preserve and protect the watershed. We have a number of valuable ongoing projects:

—We undertook an extensive study of the waves and propeller wash generated by various boating activities and the impact they have on the shoreline, the wildlife, and on other recreational users. We will distribute an informational brochure encouraging boaters to be mindful of their wakes—particularly when operating in shallow water or close to the shoreline—and sharing best operating practices.

—Thanks to the generosity of our members, we are once again inviting

the Maine Lakes Society 30-foot floating classroom, the Melinda Ann, to present hands-on water quality and lake ecology education this summer. The children attending the Lovell Recreation Department summer camp will also be invited to come aboard. Watch for the announcement of a 2-day visit in mid-July for local residents, as well as summer guests, to share this special event.

—A core sampling of sediment accumulation was taken from the relatively undisturbed Horseshoe Pond and makes an interesting comparison with a recent sampling done in Kezar Lake. The information gathered may help to understand the possible impact of human activity on the rate of sediment accumulation.

—Funding, equipping, and staffing the Lake Patrol boat is an annual service, and Turf Ramsden, our popular Patrol Officer, will be back encouraging safe boating.

—Our third annual survey of Brook Trout in Great Brook and Beaver Brook is increasing the knowledge of this important native spawning area.

—Water quality monitoring and regular testing of our lake and ponds is an ongoing project.

—The KLWA visited with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in Augusta last year to express concern about the negative impact of bass tournaments on the Kezar Lake fishery. In 2018, seven tournaments were scheduled including five consecutive weekends in July and August. For 2019, six tournaments are scheduled on Kezar, better distributed over the season, and only two consecutive weekends of July 27 and August 4th. Other tournaments are scheduled for May 5th; June 6th; and August 28th.



Cleaning up the Lake

GET INVOLVED!

“The care of the earth is our most ancient and most worthy and, after all, our most pleasing responsibility.”

— Wendell Berry

The Greater Lovell Land Trust provides many opportunities to meet and work with others who share our interest in conserving land. In addition to the time and effort of the board of directors and docents, the GLLT depends upon other volunteers to accomplish many of its tasks, such as the following:

- putting together mailings
- serving on committees
- giving talks
- assisting with Trailblazers, our after-school program
- helping with trail construction and maintenance
- monitoring easements
- fundraising and grant writing
- taking on special projects
- researching the history of our properties



There are many volunteer opportunities for a variety of interests. Would you care to help? Call 207.925.1056 or send us an email at info@gllt.org. Be sure to let us know your name, contact information, availability, skills, and interests.

GLLT Board of Directors 2019

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The Mission of the Greater Lovell Land Trust is “to protect the ecosystems of the Kezar Lake, Kezar River and Cold River watersheds in perpetuity for the benefit of this region’s natural and human communities.”



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