



# Spring/Summer 2016 Newsletter

## Wing Family Conservation Easement

By Daniel Wing, David Wind, Deborah Karol  
Annotated by Tom Henderson

**L**ate in 2015, the Wing Family Partnership (David and Daniel Wing, Deborah Wing Korol) gave the Greater Lovell Land Trust a conservation easement on more than forty acres near the Lower Bay of Kezar Lake, land that has been in their family for 100 years. The gift marks their thanks to those who most influenced the Wing “children” as they grew up on the lake—Lucy Madeira, David LaForrest Wing, Wilson Wing, Robert Littlefield and June Wing.

Tom Henderson, GLLT Executive Director states: “This generous gift by this generation of the Wings occurs in the light of over four decades of conservation leadership by their family here in Lovell.” (see *History of the Wing Camp Land Conserved in 2015 that follows*)

The Wings conducted the first local act of private conservation in the early 1970s through the donation of 20.7 acres at Sucker Brook and the Moose Pond Bog to the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Inspired by this gift, the Sucker Brook Committee formed in 1971 to build upon this donation and extend conservation north to the outlet of Horseshoe Pond. In a letter soliciting donations for twelve additional acres and dated December 28, 1973, Bishop Cadigan, a local environmentalist and one of the founders of the GLLT wrote: *“If we have the will and the mind too, this may also be preserved for ourselves and our children’s children. It is not a large area, but it is a kind of symbol, and, if we can turn this into a sanctuary, it will encourage ourselves and others to do more.”*

The family further led local conservation efforts in November of 1987 with a donation by June S. Wing to TNC of thirteen acres at Lower Bay, a property that abuts this new conservation easement property and is host to the globally rare Long’s Bullrush, *Scirpus longii*. (TNC transferred the Wing Preserve to the GLLT in 1991). Henderson further states: “This recent gift by the current generation of Wings extends their vision and generosity into another decade.”

### History of the Wing Camp Land Conserved in 2015

The Lower Bay and Lovell Village were very different places in the 1940s and 1950s when the Wing children began to come to Kezar. As for the lake, it was quiet and undeveloped in a way few people now remember. Most people on the Lower Bay recreated by canoe, rowboat or small sailboat, for example, and boats that had an outboard—a few Thompson, Old Town, or Lyman skiffs—made do with less than 25 horsepower. There were no buildings on the shore of Ladies Delight and perhaps only one on Northwest Cove, the very rustic camp of Charlotte Hobbs, reachable only by water. Most camps did not have electricity, so nights were not only quiet but also very dark as lamps were blown out and people went to bed or sat on screen porches in the dusk. Skinny dipping was not only common, it was practically required, at least for children. Even after the Wings got a propane stove and small propane refrigerator in the early 1950s, ice was still cut on the lake in the winter and stored in an icehouse for use all summer long in the icebox. There was still a wood cookstove in the kitchen.

The roads, the cars, and even the woods were different. It took two days, at least, to drive from Baltimore to Lovell before the interstate went in, and station wagons in those days were not air-conditioned. The first mild scent of pine drifted into the overheated (in more ways than one) car just about when we entered Maine or New Hampshire on the way north, then exploded as we turned down the long dirt driveway into camp late on a summer afternoon.

What is that road to the camp like? The children all learned to drive on the lengthy, serpentine sand trail, nearly half a mile long, that runs through the newly-conserved parcel from the end of Hartman Road to the camp buildings. The edge of the roadway is defined by towering pines, oaks, beeches and maples; care has always been required be-

cause of the nearness of these great trees, so it has always been best to practice for several years, sitting on a parent’s lap, before trying it on one’s own at about age twelve, on the way to the springhouse for drinking water—with a manual transmission.

The Wing camp is the last camp to the south on the east shore of the lower bay of Kezar Lake. It was originally purchased by Lucy Madeira in 1916, before she married David LaForrest Wing and became stepmother to Wilson and Mary Wing. Miss Madeira was the founder and longtime headmistress of the Madeira School in Washington D.C. She retreated to Lovell each summer, accompanied by school staff and teachers. Visitors were housed in her cabin, Hegone, a nearby cabin, Tewanna, and a number of tents mounted on wooden platforms along the lake. Before WWI, Tewanna was owned by a Miss Sewall, but was apparently run on the same lines as those of Miss Madeira—everyone went for long paddles and long hikes in sturdy shoes and did a lot of reading, as evidenced by the large supply of books and kerosene lamps left in place.

Wilson Wing’s mother, Mary Mumford (Wing) had been a college classmate of Miss Madeira’s but died when Wilson was six, telling her husband on her deathbed, “The children must have a mother. Please marry dear Lucy!” He did.

They enlarged the property, purchasing an overgrown adjoining portion of what had been a Stearns family farm. Wilson and his sister Mary grew up there, summers, and Wilson became an outdoorsman—part of an early Boy Scout troop in Washington, D.C., then a hunter, fisherman, canoeist, hiker, and compulsive brush dragger in Lovell. (As a child he was hired, at a penny a head, to catch leaches for the researches of Dr. Hartman, a neighbor. He did this by paddling to the fen and hanging his legs over the side of the boat.) His father died when he was about

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As I write this in early April, I am also watching the finches, chickadees and juncos attack our birdfeeders. If I stay at this long enough, I will likely see our resident cardinals and woodpeckers too. I probably should take in the feeders but I confess I enjoy the activity too much and thankfully we have not seen any bears for more than a year.

What all the commotion in my backyard tells me is that summer is fast approaching and summer is when the education program of the GLLT, under the incredible, knowledgeable and devoted leadership of Leigh Hayes, builds into high gear. I encourage everyone, young and old, to visit our Web site ([www.gllt.org](http://www.gllt.org)) and find a program that interests you. I know you will not be disappointed and the knowledge you will gain will be stunning. On one of our walks I took with Leigh and her devoted docents, we saw what we thought were four different birch trees, white, yellow, grey and black. Who knew there was such a thing as a black birch tree? Well it turned out, after some further study by Leigh, it was not a black birch but instead a pin cherry. In either case, they were trees I had never seen before or even knew existed. My sense based on the walks I have gone on and GLLT programs I have attended, learning or seeing something new is the norm!

Leigh has also put together a remarkable program of speakers for our programs at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library. These speakers will explore the natural history of our area and discuss such diverse topics as bears, turkeys, dragonflies and old barns. Check the Web site for the complete list.

A very exciting component of our education program is the involvement with the Lovell Recreation Program, which is being enriched this year to include site visits to multiple properties. What a wonderful way for the young people of this area to learn about nature and conservation and have fun in the process, as can be seen in the photos at right. Last year, one of these youngsters described a day of activities as the "best day ever." I hope this year will be full of many such days!

Another exciting announcement is that we will once again host two summer interns. The program is designed to introduce two young people to the full extent of the work

that we do. They will work with Tom, the land stewards, Leigh and the docents to gain an understanding of all of our programs. Our interns this year are Aidan Black of Sweden and Hannah Rousey of Lovell. Make a point to meet them and welcome them aboard.

Finally, the onset of summer means that our cabin at Whitney Pond will be available for vacation rentals and remote get-a-ways. This is a real opportunity to spend time in a peaceful, "unplugged" setting free from the distractions of modern technology. I encourage any of you who may be interested to visit our Web site and make your reservation. You will not be disappointed.

In closing this message, I need to report that the GLLT Board of Directors is considering and will likely be undertaking a capital campaign to enhance our endowment, which enables us to support the vibrant programs I have been describing and keeps our land conservation and stewardship programs on course. Our members and donors have generously supported similar campaigns for land acquisitions and we hope you will realize the importance of this campaign to our continuation of our shared mission. Please contact me directly at 207.928.5003 if you have thoughts and comments that will be useful to the Board's deliberation and that you would like to share.



I just returned from the annual Land Trust Conference, a statewide gathering organized by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT). The conference attracts over 400 individuals working in land conservation in every corner of the State of Maine and beyond. This year's keynote speaker clearly illuminated a little known issue and pulled at heartstrings with inspirational words of hope for the future.

The speaker, Kristen Miale, is the president of the Good Shepherd Food Bank, the largest hunger relief organization in Maine. The Good Shepherd works with over 600 partnering organizations to acquire and distribute food to those in need, a number totaling over 170,000 Maine residents annually. Their clients include 33% of elders on fixed incomes, 10% disabled persons and it was difficult to keep a dry eye when she added "and over 60,000 children." I listen to enough public radio to be aware of the hunger issue in this country, as do many in that room, but Miale brought it home through her passion for people. She made it clear to everyone the impact of food insecurity on people, especially those children and families. It was moving. So why, do you ask, was she the keynote speaker at a statewide land conservation conference?

Fall back to the 2008 conference and the Friday afternoon session entitled: "What do you Envision the Land Trust Community Looking Like in 25 Years?" That session was designed to have land trust leaders across the state participate in a frank, "fish-bowl" style conversation of the relevance of land trusts to their communities in the future. I found the conversation engaging, but after two hours of carefully using my ears, I was compelled to add my voice by taking one of the empty chairs and microphones in the "fish bowl." I had listened to a few land trusts that spoke of model projects they had engaged in to meet a local community need. I also heard lots of push back as to the fear of many of "mission creep," a common term in the non-profit world to stick to your core mission and avoid the temptation to go beyond.

This is part of the words I had for my colleagues back in 2008 of which Miale's recent speech reminded me: "Mission creep be damned. While there will be many land trusts that will only act within their comfort zones, there better be a few of us across the state willing to be bold and respond to community needs. After all, your organization may be the only local non-profit in your part of rural Maine or at least the most effective. It is possible for a land trust to facilitate the development of pro-

grams that meet such needs until such time as they have their own legs and can proceed on their own. You can do this without jeopardizing your core mission and it may increase your relevance. I hope many of you do."

Miale's comments spoke of how the Good Shepherd has developed new partnerships, new programs and new storage facilities to improve the food system in Maine, a system that goes from production to consumption. One partnership is its farmer-guarantee purchase program. This a contract program with Maine farmers that provides a guarantee of purchase of certain volumes of crops. Farmers are willing to sell at a reduced price due to the contract and the Food Bank does not require "perfect" products such as straight carrots and cucumbers that must be a certain size and shape. This means the farmers can sell most of their product. In recent years, many land trusts have acquired farmland and now participate in selling food to the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

The GLLT has looked at operating a working farm for several years, if and when the right opportunity arose. One concern was how to produce food that would not compete with the local farmers. This has been a critical question as it would be more of our interest to use the farm for educational purposes and meeting food insecurity needs while not competing. Participating in the Good Shepherd contract program may be a good solution, if the opportunity arises.

Good Shepherd has created school enrichment programs to teach children how to prepare healthy foods. When my son was in elementary school I was asked to teach cooking in the afterschool program with the goal of introducing young children to inexpensive, simple to prepare, healthy meals that were yummy. I taught that program for one year. Miale stated that these programs often attract the hungriest kids in the school. I know from my own experience, that a third of my students signed up for the class because of the promise of being fed and eat they did.

Good Shepherd also has mentoring programs that help meet the full needs of families to break the cycle of hunger. A good example would be the GLLT's standing offer to Lovell's Friends Helping Friends to provide firewood to those that need it. I believe Miale provided the early roadmap for increased land trust involvement in ending hunger in Maine while making people feel comfortable that the dreaded "mission creep" could be avoided—after all, as insightful, former GLLT Board member George Westerberg said, "Productive



land that feeds a community is more valuable than the house lots it could be lost to, a condition that affords it some protection."

Miale's comments resonated with me on many levels. She reminded me of my own personal experience of hunger growing up. Miale stated that the real issue is families lacking enough cash to meet all of their basic needs and therefore, struggling to make choices which I can relate to. I am an avid gardener who can produce much more food than my son and I need (provided the deer fence works, insects are kind and the woodchucks are not present—not so last year as they cleaned me out). In my son's early years, one of his favorite activities was picking baskets of food for "the poor families." We picked weekly for four families in town and for the local food pantry. I explained to him that most of them are not poor; most of them are, like us, having a temporary setback. They have obligations and not enough money at the moment to pay them all. Good food will help them through it and we are lucky to have land and the skills to produce food to share. I explained that the faces will change, but the need will likely always be there.

Miale's comments struck me in many ways and I hope it inspires a robust dialogue going forward as to how land trusts can use their uniqueness to fight hunger in Maine. For my part, I am using my voice once again to bring the conversation to my land trust community. There are things that individuals and land trusts can do. Perhaps given a little thought, other land trusts, the GLLT and each of you will discover ways to contribute to the alleviation of hunger in Maine.



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to enter high school but Wilson continued to spend summers in Lovell with his stepmother. He met his wife, June, there in the late 1930s, when she was invited up for a visit by Mary Wing. Her long black hair, erect posture, and spirited wit were important, but her confident paddling while in the stern seat in a canoe first caught his attention. She was still too far out on the lake for closer observation.

As Wilson and June raised their family on the Lower Bay, they enjoyed the friendship and physical assistance of Herman and Sara Merrill and the close friendship of Robert and Gladys Littlefield and their children. Robert was all the woodsman that Wilson was, and more, and many happy and conversational pipes were smoked by those two over the decades in many buggy places. Thus, when June and her children wanted to honor Wilson after his death in 1971, Robert suggested the purchase and conservation donation of what is now the GLLT's Wilson Wing Moose Pond Bog Preserve. That gift was the first of what are now three conservation gifts by the Wing family.

The second gift, now the GLLT's June Wing Preserve (on the shore of Lower Bay), was donated to The Nature Conservancy in the mid-1980s with the understanding that it would be conserved by that organization and then transferred to the GLLT. The third gift encompasses most of the Stearns family land mentioned earlier, which is completely forested and abuts the June Wing Preserve.

The terms of the new easement include the practice of sustainable forestry. A variety of game and non-game animals utilize the parcel including large and small mammals, and raptors. Of primary importance, though, is the proximity of this protected land to nearby and adjacent woodlands and the Kezar Outlet Fen, helping to preserve a block of habitat on the regional scale required for healthy plant and animal communities.

Tom Henderson concludes: "For several years, the GLLT has focused its land protection efforts on properties that can build connectivity to previously protected lands. The goal is to preserve viable, native wildlife populations through the preservation of the habitats upon which they depend and land bridges between these habitats to permit movement between them. The Wing conservation easement property is located in the Western Wildlife Habitat and Corridor focus area, which extends from the White Mountain National Forest at Horseshoe Pond through the Sucker Brook/Lower Bay and Kezar Outlet ecosystems. The Wing land furthers that effort to which the GLLT is grateful."

## Annual Education Meeting



**Saturday, August 13  
8:30 - 11:15 a.m.**

This year we will return to the traditional format for the Annual Education meeting, which will include a Saturday morning social followed by a brief business meeting. Renowned guest speaker, Esperanza Stancioff will present "Signs of the Season: New England Phenology." Updates will be posted at the GLLT Web site and through a July reminder postcard.

### Agenda

8:30-9:30 Social with light fare and beverages  
9:30-10:15 Business meeting  
10:15-11:15 Guest Speaker, Esperanza Stancioff, Climate Change Educator, University of Maine Cooperative Extension/ Maine Sea Grant Program on "Signs of the Season: New England Phenology"  
In addition, the GLLT will be present at Lovell Old Home Day, July 16, with programming designed for children of all ages. We look forward to seeing you at both events.

## Winter Education Update

by Leigh Macmillen Hayes

Under the guidance of our volunteer docents, we enjoyed a winter hike during each month. Our topics included winter weed structures, mammal sign, birch trees and vernal pools. We also offered an owl prowl one evening, during which we developed great camaraderie as a group, but our only responses to our owl calls were a few dogs barking in the distance.

In addition, the Tuesday Trackers, a group of people interested in exploring the winter woodlands in search of mammal tracks, met on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Our explorations usually lasted about three hours. Some of our fun finds included otter slides, bear claw trees, bird nests, owl pellets, and of course, scat—all kinds of scat.

If you'd like to join us for next winter's tracking adventures, please contact me: lmacayes@gmail.com.



## Become a Member of the Greater Lovell Land Trust or Renew Today!

The membership season is upon us. Annual membership runs from May 1-April 30 of any given year. The GLLT is a member-supported organization with all programs and services dependent upon your generous donations. Please consider joining or renewing your membership today.

For over a quarter of a century, the GLLT has worked tirelessly with private landowners who wish to set aside their special places to benefit others today and for future generations. With membership and donor support, we have conserved 52 properties totaling 5,036 acres including some of the region's forest, farms and wetlands. We have preserved critical habitats for several rare, threatened or endangered species and have made available to the public over 2,500 acres for traditional use such as nature observation, wild food gathering, fishing and hunting. In addition, we have maintained sixteen reserves/preserves with over thirty miles of hiking trails open to the public. We also have supported four miles of the Kezar Trailbreakers' snowmobile trail system and have offered dozens of Environmental Education Programs that are free and open to all ages.

When you join the GLLT, you share the vision of like-minded citizens who want to protect the ecosystems of Kezar Lake and adjacent watersheds for the benefit of human and natural communities. Your contributions make it all possible. Please take a moment to fill out our membership envelope and send it back to us with your enclosed check. By joining now, you become an active participant for Land Preservation and Environmental projects in the watersheds of Lovell, Stoneham, Stow and Sweden.

Your support is invaluable—thank you,  
Bob Winship, GLLT Membership Chairman

## Be Prepared

Directions to the GLLT properties are listed on our Web site at [www.gllt.org](http://www.gllt.org). You'll also find brochures for the properties posted outside the office at 208 Main Street, Lovell.

Whether you are joining one of our guided walks or venturing off on your own, please wear appropriate clothing and good walking shoes. Be sure to bring water and bug repellent. Due to the increased incidents of Lyme Disease in our area, we strongly encourage you to wear long pants.

**Cancellation Policy:** Please call 207.925.1056 if you have a question about cancellation of a walk due to weather. You may also contact us via e-mail at [info@gllt.org](mailto:info@gllt.org).

## Guidelines for Walks

- An active walk is on developed and rough trails up and down hills
- A casual walk is on developed trails 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
- Please note that pets are not invited on guided walks





# Guided Outdoor Programs

## Thursday, June 30, 9:30am-noon A Few of Our Favorite Plants

Join us as we take a closer look at a few of our favorite flowers and ferns—some are common, all are worth the wonder. You'll delight in discovering their unique features as our docents share the clues to their identification. Bring your camera and learn more about the stars at your feet.

**Trailhead:** Heald & Bradley Ponds Reserve to Otter Point, Fairburn Parking Lot, Slab City Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Wednesday, July 6, 9:30am-11:30am A Walk Down Sensory Lane

We rely on our sense of sight to identify our surroundings, but often bypass our other senses. On this leisurely walk, we'll explore the natural world up close through touch, sound, smell, sight and maybe taste. Get in touch with your five senses and maybe even find a sixth! This walk is great for kids of all ages.

**Trailhead:** Wilson Wing Moose Pond Bog Preserve, Horseshoe Pond Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Wednesday, July 13, 10:00am-noon Dragonfly and Damselfly walk accompanied by Brian Pfeiffer

We'll gather with nets, binoculars and cameras to visit with our local dragonflies and damselflies—to watch them do everything from court and mate to kill and eat.

**Trailhead:** John A. Segur West, New Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Thursday, July 21, 9:30am-12:30pm Reading the Rural Landscape

An exploration of foundations, stonewalls and mystery stones accompanied by Dr. Sanford, author of *Reading the Rural Landscape*

We'll explore the foundation, stonewalls and mystery stones from the Flat Hill parking lot to Amos Mountain. If time allows, we'll climb up the mountain and take a look at some of the stonewalls on its southern side. This walk will require us to hike on some uneven terrain so dress appropriately, bring plenty of water and a snack or lunch.

**Trailhead:** Flat Hill parking lot, Heald Pond Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Moderate

## Thursday, July 28, 9:30am-noon The Bear Necessities

Join us for a walk on the loop trail at the Bishop Cardinal Reserve. Along the way, we'll look for bear sign as we enjoy the beauty of this remote property. This walk will require us to hike on some uneven terrain so dress appropriately, bring plenty of water and a snack or lunch.

**Trailhead:** Meet at the kiosk on Horseshoe Pond Road, Lovell

**Degree of difficulty:** Easy/Moderate



## Saturday, July 30, 9:30am-noon A'journaling We'll Go

Get inspired by the Heald & Bradley Pond Reserve's beauty and reflect in your journal about the natural world around you. Bring your own journal and writing utensils. This will be a stop and go walk as we pause along the way to sketch, draw, photograph and/or write about our observations. (If there is enough interest, we could turn this into a monthly or seasonal activity)

**Trailhead:** Flat Hill parking lot, Heald Pond Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Thursday, August 4, 9:30am-12:30pm Walk the Bounds

We will explore the outer edges of an entire property under the protection of the GLLT to give you an example of one of the pieces being preserved for the future by the Trust. We'll bushwhack off trail, so this is for the more intrepid walkers among you! Be sure to

bring a snack or lunch and plenty of water.

**Trailhead:** Meet at Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library to carpool to location

**Degree of Difficulty:** Moderate

## Wednesday, August 10, 9:30am-noon Visiting Lovell's Chestnut Trees accompanied by Dr. Brian Roth of UMaine

Last fall an American Chestnut tree in Lovell was deemed the tallest in North America. We'll pay it a visit and then venture to one of the GLLT's reserves and hike in to view other native American Chestnut trees.

**Trailhead:** Meet at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library to carpool to locations

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy/Moderate

## Wednesday, August 17, 9:30am-noon Mushrooms of Lovell

Summer is a great time to get introduced to the most common families of mushrooms (fungi) in our area and find out more about their natural history and many ecological functions. Note: the focus of our walk is fungi's important and under-appreciated role in forest ecology, not the edibility of particular species of mushrooms.

**Trailhead:** Meet at the Kiosk on Horseshoe Pond Road, Lovell

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Thursday, August 25, 9:30am-noon Examining the Barns of Maine accompanied by Don Perkins, author of *Barns of Maine*

We'll take a look at the foundations of former barns and then examine the style of standing barns around town. Our exploration will begin at the Gallie/Homestead Trail of the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve and continue from there via car to learn about other barns in Lovell.

**Trailhead:** Meet at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library to carpool.

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

## Saturday, September 3, 9:30am-12:30pm Hut Road Neighborhood

Our walk through the woods will suddenly find us in a former neighborhood where we'll examine the stone work of early settlers. We'll enjoy an historical exploration of stonewalls and foundations that date to the 1800s.

**Trailhead:** Hut Road, Stoneham

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy

# Natural History Evening Programs

## at Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

*Please note that while all of our evening programs begin at 7:30pm, some occur on Tuesdays and others on Wednesdays.*

## Tuesday, July 5, 7:30 pm The Vital Shorelands: Little known facts and everyday acts that preserve Maine lakes, their wildlife and other benefits with Maggie Shannon, co-sponsored by GLLT and KLWA

People often say it's the little things that count in life, and that certainly applies to conserving the beauty, benefits and value of Maine's irreplaceable great ponds. This talk may surprise you. And you will go home equipped with practical steps you can follow to protect and preserve lake water quality and the recreational benefits, wildlife habitat, community wellbeing, and home value that depend on it.

## Tuesday, July 12, 7:30pm Dragonflies and Damselflies with Brian Pfeiffer, sponsored by GLLT

Pick any scene from the drama of life on Earth: birth, growth, beauty, courtship, reproduction, murder. Find them all expressed in the lives of dragonflies and damselflies. Shakespeare could have written the script for these insects. And now you can join the stage when naturalist and writer, Bryan Pfeiffer, dazzles us with vivid images and stories from nature to tell a 300-million-year-old story of these insects.

## Wednesday, July 20, 7:30pm Reading the Rural Landscape with Dr. Robert Sanford, co-sponsored by GLLT and Sweden Historical Society

Common landscape features ranging from plants and trees to stonewalls, cellar holes, and other altered landforms show the dynamics of human-influenced change in the countryside. What are some common clues to the past? How do we read them? We will focus on some typical features and techniques for interpreting them as we process the "language" of the land in rural Maine. Participants are invited to share their own insights and experiences with local landscapes. Signed copies of Sanford's book will be available for purchase.

## Wednesday, July 27, 7:30 pm The Three Bears: Black, Grizzly and Polar with Professor Moira Yip, sponsored by GLLT

Our local black bears are one member of the genus *Ursus*, and this talk will compare them to their cousins, particularly the grizzly bear and the polar bear, but with brief forays further afield. Professor Moira Yip's photography will astound you as she shares her experiences.

## Wednesday, August 3, 7:30pm Wild Turkeys are More than Just Big Chickens! with Bonny Boatman, sponsored by GLLT

Have you noticed all the wild turkeys strutting about our woodlands? That's because they have had a remarkable comeback from near extinction since the early 1900s and now number in the millions. Did you know that you can distinguish a turkey's sex by the shape of its poop? Come and hear Bonny Boatman give a lighthearted pictorial tour of facts and stories about this ubiquitous creature with which we share our outdoor space. Gobble gobble.



## Tuesday, August 9, 7:30pm Efforts to Restore the American Chestnut to our Eastern Woodlands with Dr. Brian Roth, sponsored by GLLT

The goal of The American Chestnut Foundation is to restore this tree to eastern woodlands for the benefit of environments, wildlife and society. Dr. Roth, who joined this organization in 2013 as a member of the Board of Directors for the Maine Chapter, will describe the group's efforts, the important role this species once played in eastern forests, and their multiple efforts to restore it to its once widespread status.

## Tuesday, August 16, 7:30pm Movie Night: "The Messenger" co-sponsored by GLLT and KLWA's Climate Change Observatory

This documentary film explores our deep-seated connection to birds and warns that the uncertain fate of songbirds might mirror our own. Through fabulous photography, "The Messenger" is an engaging, visually stunning, emotional journey that mixes its elegiac message with hopeful notes and unique glances into the influence of songbirds on our own expressions of the soul. "The Messenger" is also the arful story about the mass depletion of songbirds on multiple continents, and about those who are working to turn the tide.

## Wednesday, August 24, 7:30pm The Barns of Maine with Don Perkins, sponsored by GLLT

Don Perkins sees history and mystery inside Maine's old barns. A self-described "bar-nologist," Perkins is the author of the book *The Barns of Maine: Our History, Our Stories*, and will share insights of Maine's barns from Arundel to Aroostook. Perkins' presentation will also highlight Maine's fascinating farming history and the unique aspects that shaped barns in various regions of our state. Signed copies of Perkins' book will be available for purchase.





# Special Nature Programs

This summer, we'll offer several special programs both during the day and in the evening.

**Saturday, July 16, 9:30-noon**

GLLT activity table at Old Home Days celebration



**Tuesday, July 19, 10:00am-noon**

**Connect To Our Natural World Through Poems And Short Prose: A Writing Workshop with Judy Steinbergh**, sponsored by GLLT and Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Please join us at Hewnoaks Artist Colony to explore and reflect on our connections to the landscape, elements, seasons and wildlife. With inspiration from our surroundings, and short pieces by poets and naturalists, we will draft our writing and share with the group. Adults and teens welcome. Please sign up at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library.

Ms. Steinbergh has led poetry workshops with adults and students for over forty years, and authored three poetry writing texts and five books of poetry.

**Location:** Hewnoaks Artist Colony

**Tuesday, July 26, 7:00-8:15pm**

**Connecting to Our Natural World Poetry Reading with Judith Steinbergh**, sponsored by GLLT and Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Come enjoy the inspiring poems by participants of the Hewnoaks Poetry Workshop. An open mic for children and adult writers will conclude the evening.

**Location:** Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

**Friday, August 12, 1:00-2:00pm**

**Crows and Corvids by Bonny Boatman**, sponsored by GLLT and Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Were you aware that crows can do the following: Remember individual human faces?

Plan for the future and communicate complexities to each other? And make and share tools with one another? These are just a few examples of their extraordinary abilities. Join Bonny Boatman for an amazing trip through the world of the crow. Learn about this marvelous creature that literally lives among us. Through photographs, film, sounds and humor, you will begin to see the crow in a very different light.

**Location:** Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

**Saturday, August 13, 8:45am**  
**Annual Education Meeting**

Social Hour

Business Meeting

Keynote Speaker: Esperanza Stancioff

Topic: New England Phenology

**Location:** Lovell VFW Hall

**Friday, August 19, 1:00-2:00pm**

**Wild Turkeys are More than Just Big Chickens! with Bonny Boatman**

Have you noticed all the wild turkeys strutting about our woodlands? That's because they have had a remarkable comeback from near extinction since the early 1900s and now number in the millions. Did you know that you can distinguish a turkey's sex by the shape of its poop? Come and hear Bonny Boatman give a lighthearted pictorial tour of facts and stories about this ubiquitous creature with which we share our outdoor space.

**Location:** Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library



## Self-Guided Nature Tours on GLLT Properties

The GLLT offers two Self-Guided Nature Walks with signs describing features along the trail. One is permanently located at the Wilson Wing Moose Pond Bog Preserve located on Horseshoe Pond Road, where signs identify interesting things to observe as you walk along. The second nature walk is located at a different GLLT property each year.

In 2016, plant identification signs will be placed along the red and blue trail from the kiosk down to Otter Rocks. Park at the Fairburn trailhead at the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve on Slab City Road. The red and blue trail begins at Mill Brook below the Heald Pond dam. The ID signs will begin after the kiosk and will remain in place from July 1st through Labor Day for the self-guided tour. Directions to the parking lot can be found at [www.gllt.org](http://www.gllt.org).

Each label shows a picture of the plant, plus the key identifying characteristics you will observe. Many of these plants may be found on other GLLT properties as well.



# Profile in Volunteering

The Greater Lovell Land Trust is eternally thankful to all of our volunteers who donate their time and energy to land conservation here in western Maine.

Volunteers are vital to our organization as they spend countless hours helping protect habitat for wildlife. Once a year, we choose an outstanding volunteer to profile. This year's volunteer of the year is a young entrepreneur many of you know as one of our Fungi guides, Parker Veitch.

Though his accent may not indicate so, Parker is a Maine native. He was born in Westbrook, but has also lived in Greece, China and North Carolina. Every summer, however, was spent in Lovell and he chose to make this his home two years ago.

From a young age, Parker's interest in nature began to take shape and today he's a diligent steward of the land and champion of land conservation. He says, "I began fishing and camping at a very young age. Although I didn't realize it at the time, these hobbies initiated my interest in the natural world. It is hard to be a successful fisherman without paying close attention to the environment. What's the water level/flow like? What insects are hatching? What is the weather like? Why are the fish biting more under conifers than deciduous trees or vice versa. As you're fishing a brook you also start to notice other things—what was that odd sounding howl, screech, or noise? What animal in Maine has a print that big and with that shape? Is that poison ivy? Is that a deer tick? That snake looks aggressive—could it be venomous? Is that a bear den?"

He continues, "Being a fisherman, hunter, camper, and a person that likes spending time in the woods, I have seen the environmental impact that clear cutting and improper forest management can have on a forest or watershed. Volunteering for a land trust that protects wildlife corridors and environmentally sensitive areas, properly manages forests, and educates people about the natural world was an easy decision for me. I want future generations to have the same opportunities in the natural world that I had growing up."

In 2008, he began volunteering for the GLLT. Over the years, he has helped with trail maintenance, explored land trust properties for unique ecological areas, identi-



fied rare flora/animals, and recently became a docent.

"The land trust is important to me because it is dedicated to the conservation of ecologically important areas and environmental education," says Parker. "In my opinion, it is important to conserve wildlife corridors, watersheds, and other rare or unusual natural habitats. Land owned by the land trust is unique when compared to the majority of privately owned forested land in Maine because it is managed for forest health and not monetary gain. The land trust is also different because it has a long list of docents, volunteers, and hikers that regularly walk land trust properties and report their findings. For example, there were six known sites for box turtles in Maine before my cousin, Melissa Loewe, found one at Back Pond Reserve."

Parker and his brother, Jimmie, co-own White Mountain Mushrooms, LLC. They provide gourmet edible and medicinal mushrooms to restaurants, stores, and sell them online. They also lead walks, forays, and environmental-Fungal surveys for land trusts and the general public. "In my opinion," says Parker,



"sustainably and ethically harvested plants, meats, and Fungi reduces the need to clear cut forests for agriculture and therefore helps to protect our natural areas."

When he's not collecting Fungi, Parker hones his other skills—woodworking, gardening, backpacking, hiking, fishing, hunting, animal tanning, and identifying mushrooms and plants.

You might see him, camera and tripod slung over his shoulder and basket dangling from his arm as he roams the GLLT properties. If you do, be sure to thank Parker for his great work on behalf of the land trust.



# Vacation Retreat at the Wilderness Cabin on Whitney Pond



The wilderness cabin on Whitney Pond in Stoneham, Maine, is a "calendar piece," which promises guests a peaceful and comfortable place to relax with family, friends and nature. With no electricity or cell phone coverage, it is "unplugged" and free from the distractions of today's technological devices. The Greater Lovell Land Trust is pleased to offer the cabin for you to enjoy an extended stay in nature. The GLLT views time spent at Whitney Pond as a unique extension of its Environmental Education Program that seeks to instill a deep appreciation for the natural world.

**Availability:** The rental season officially begins June 1 and ends November 15. Pre and post-season, plus winter requests may be considered. The road is not plowed in winter and not recommended for use during mud season, typically from March 15 to April 15.

Before making reservations, potential guests should understand the nature of the remote setting and its rustic amenities: Utilities run on propane, the bathroom is an outhouse and the swimming is enjoyable but can intimidate those not accustomed to the tannin-stained brown water.

The cabin is a 20 x 30-foot, two-story, well-maintained rustic structure overlooking the nine-acre pond surrounded by 64 privately owned acres. The interior includes a first floor living room, bedroom and kitchen area, with a sleeping loft upstairs. A covered porch overlooks the pond and a dock provides access to the water.

It is available by reservation only ([www.unpluggedmainevacations.com](http://www.unpluggedmainevacations.com)) for a rental of \$35 per person per night. Children 12 and under are free. The maximum per night fee is \$125 to assist in affordability for large families or multi-family vacations. The recommended

minimum stay is 3-7 nights, with the possibility of longer stays by special arrangement in advance.

Guests will need to provide their own transportation, bedding, food and drinking water. Wash water can be taken from the pond. Guests are expected to pack out their trash and leave the building and grounds as they found them or better.

**Accommodations:** Downstairs bedroom with one double bed. Living area with two bed-length cushioned window benches. A few more people can sleep on the floor if they bring padding. Loft with two double beds and plenty of room for people to sleep on the floor, again if they bring padding.

Put Whitney Pond on your list of favorite places to explore. You will be glad you did. For more information: [www.unpluggedmainevacations.com](http://www.unpluggedmainevacations.com) or [www.gllt.org](http://www.gllt.org) or contact Tom Henderson, Executive Director at [tom@gllt.org](mailto:tom@gllt.org) or by calling 207-925-1056.

Photos: Jim Owen



### Amenities Include:

- Screened windows
- Large central fireplace
- Many chairs
- Breakfast bar and kitchen with sink (not running water)
- Kitchen equipped with cutlery, glassware, plates, pots and pans, knives, cooking utensils, cleaning supplies
- 4-burner propane cook stove
- Propane-operated refrigerator
- Small wood-fired cook stove
- Propane lights throughout



# News From the Kezar Lake Watershed Association

Jim Stone, President

The KLWA's purpose is to preserve and protect Kezar Lake and its watershed and in that spirit I would like to comment on several activities we've been working on.

Central to the KLWA's mission of preserving and protecting the watershed has been our annual testing of the water quality done three times over the course of the summer in multiple locations in Kezar Lake, its tributaries and the ponds in the watershed. The results of the 2015 testing program have recently been published on our Web site, [klwa.us](http://klwa.us), and I am happy to tell you that the results are generally in line with historic levels and continue to place us among the best in Maine.

To encourage responsible shoreline

conservation management by residents and renters, we are preparing a flyer outlining a range of activities aimed to reduce pollution coming into the lakes and streams. We will distribute this at a number of events over the summer and I hope you will pick one up. It will serve as a useful reminder of the range of small things we can all do that collectively will make a big difference.

In the fall 2015 newsletter, I commented on our activities regarding the US Forest Service's proposed timbering project known as Albany South, which depending on how it's designed, could occur in the Great Brook watershed at the north end of Kezar Lake. The USFS issued their draft environmental assess-

ment of the project on May 6 and will accept comments on it for a 30-day period ending June 6. We intend to review it and comment on risks we see it may pose for our environment. Our comments and other information will be posted on our Web site.

In closing I'd like to mention two events. First, our Annual Meeting for our membership will be July 9 at the VFW Hall in Lovell starting at 8:30 am. All are welcome.

Secondly, on July 12th at 7:30 pm, Maggie Shannon will be giving a talk at the Charlotte Hobbs Library entitled "The Vital Shorelands" outlining little known facts and everyday acts that preserve Maine lakes and their watersheds. Please plan to attend.



## Lovell Recreation Summer Nature Program

Greater Lovell Land Trust docents will again work with Meg Dyer and her camp counselors to offer a weekly nature program for children participating in the Lovell Recreation Day Camp. Each week, we will visit a different GLLT reserve/preserve to explore the world around us as we hike. The children will learn cool stuff together while deepening their sense of community, self-confidence and an appreciation for the natural world.

## Estate Planning

Have you considered naming the GLLT in your estate plans? Everyone has the capacity to leave a legacy to the organizations they care about most. There are a number of simple ways you can make a lasting gift for local land conservation. The GLLT has established a Pooled Income Fund with the Maine Community Foundation, which can be named as a beneficiary in your will, IRA or charitable trust. Please contact us for more information on this and other options available to provide a legacy for future generations.



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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."



Like the Greater Lovell Land Trust on Facebook

And if you enjoy wondering about nature, check out this blog:

<https://wondermyway.wordpress.com>

