Downeast Lakes
LAND TRUST

November 2011 Volume 5, Issue 2

Downeast Lakes Traditions

Forests and Lakes—For People—Forever

West Grand Lake Community Forest

Over $13 million is now committed to the $24 million campaign for the West Grand Lake Community Forest.

We received major grants this summer of $1,250,000 from the Land for Maine's Future Board and $1,000,000 from the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation. Grants from these leading supporters of Maine conservation added momentum to the campaign.

The Land for Maine's Future program funding was approved by Maine's voters in a bond referendum in 2010, and in July the LMF Board allocated the available funding to projects selected from among 38 applicants around the state. The Sewall Foundation challenge grant is their second commitment to the project, continuing Mrs. Sewall's legacy of support for conservation in Downeast Maine.

The $11 million still needed to complete the effort represents an outstanding opportunity for donors to have a positive impact, supporting the permanent conservation of 21,700 acres of forest and wetland wildlife habitat, helping Grand Lake Stream remain an exceptional destination for outdoor recreation, sustaining the Downeast economy, and protecting Maine's quality of life.

George Mitchell Joins Honorary Co-chairs

Former U.S. Senate Majority Leader and U.S. Special Envoy for Middle East Peace George Mitchell has joined the Honorary Co-chairs of the West Grand Lake Community Forest Project. Senator Mitchell also served as an Honorary Co-chair of the now completed Wabassus Lake Project prior to his appointment as U.S. Special Envoy. His service is a strong statement of the importance of the project, and is in keeping with his long-standing dedication to Maine's people and environment.

Downeast Lakes Land Trust is grateful to all the West Grand Lake Honorary Co-chairs:

- Governor Paul R. LePage
- Senator Olympia J. Snowe
- Senator Susan M. Collins
- Former Senator George J. Mitchell
- Representative Michael H. Michaud
- Representative Chellie M. Pingree
- Passamaquoddy Governor Joseph Socobasin
- Roger Milliken, Jr., Chairman. The Nature Conservancy & Baskahegan CEO
- John Cashwell, Retired President, Seven Islands Land Co.

Congressional Delegation Honored

with Downeast Lakes Conservation Awards

Senator Collins & Mark Berry

Downeast Lakes Land Trust created the Downeast Lakes Conservation Award to honor those who make extraordinary contributions toward the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the Downeast Lakes region of Maine.

The land trust Board of Directors voted unanimously to honor the four members of Maine's Congressional Delegation as the recipients this year of the Downeast Lakes Conservation Award. Senator Olympia Snowe, Senator Susan Collins, Representative Mike Michaud, and Representative Chellie Pingree each serve as Honorary Co-chairs of the land trust's 21,700-acre West Grand Lake Community Forest Project.

"It is a profound honor to be awarded the prestigious Downeast Lakes Conservation Award. Maine's iconic and unparalleled natural beauty is preserved through stalwart advocates including the staff and volunteers at Downeast Lakes Land Trust and the critical federal assistance received through the Forest Legacy Program," said U.S. Senator Olympia J. Snowe. "Maine is fortunate to have such willing partners for our state's future and this tremendous work will further serve as a

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *For People*

I am honored to serve as the new president of DLLT's Board of Directors, but before I express any feelings about that honor, it's crucial that I express thanks – shared by our trustees and the community – for the service of my predecessor Lindsay Wheaton and of Louie Cataldo, retiring vice-president, into whose noble shoes Lee Whitely now steps.

I first came to Grand Lake Stream in 1953 at ten years old, and fell immediately under the spell of the place, and of the legendary woodsman Carter White. I kept returning until, at 21, I rejoiced at my parents' purchase of Munson Island on West Grand Lake. I have not missed being here in 48 years since, and if Carter White was first mentor, many others followed: Carter's brother Bill, Frank and George MacArthur, Donald Chambers, the fabulous Earl Bonness, Creston Macarthur, Annie Fitch, Ada Chambers, Paul Hoar, Barbara and Kenny Wheaton. That list is far from inclusive.

The conservation values of our trust are surely worth our hard work in themselves, but I for one would be less committed to DLLT's efforts were it not for the link between its natural surroundings and the men and women who have so enriched and profoundly influenced my life as man and writer. To preserve the traditions they exemplified is my most treasured goal. I take very seriously the DLLT motto: "**Forest and Lakes *for People* Forever.**"

Most immediately, I am concerned that we finish the campaign for the West Grand Lake Community Forest, 22,000 crucial acres stretching from the eastern shore of West Grand Lake to breathtaking Big Musquash Stream. We have likely received most of the government money we can expect for this project; it is now up to individuals -- friends, campaigners, donors, publicists -- to see the task through.

I can still hear Earl Bonness telling me, "I don't want to see Grand Lake Stream end up like anyplace else." It is not like anyplace else now; let us all strive to keep it unique.

Sincerely,

Syd Lea

CORPORATE PARTNERS

DLLT Corporate Partners share in our vision for the future of the Downeast Lakes Region.

As we go to press, the following businesses have made gifts to our annual fund in 2011. Their logos will be displayed at www.downeastlakes.org through 2012, along with any others that make a commitment of support before year end.

Please consider contacting us and becoming a DLLT Corporate Partner - and thank these businesses for their support of Downeast conservation!

Brook Trout ($1,000 +)

Bangor Savings Bank
Finite Carbon
Hanscom Construction, Inc.
Macdonald Page & Co., LLC
Orion Timberlands, LLC

Grand Laker ($250+)

Davis Forestry Products
Furbush Roberts Printing Co.
Grand Lake Lodge
Machias Savings Bank
Porcupine Signs
Robbins Lumber
Weatherby's Resort

MISSION

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust contributes to the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the Downeast Lakes region through the conservation and exemplary management of its forests and waters.

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Downeast Lakes LAND TRUST

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Inspired by Supporters

Thank you. I consider myself fortunate to be able to live and raise my son in such a wonderful place. Even more, I know I'm fortunate to do work that I believe in. I am sure that what we accomplish together will help other families choose to live here for generations to come.

I am continually inspired by the dedication that many of you bring to Grand Lake Stream and the Downeast Lakes Land Trust. I'd like to share with you news of one supporter we gained, and a few that we lost.

This summer, I was saddened to see some of our supporters and friends pass away. The families of Dr. Ephraim Friedman and Edwards and Elizabeth Danforth each chose Downeast Lakes Land Trust as a recipient of memorial gifts. They loved Grand Lake Stream. Their friends and families made gifts in their honor, which were dedicated to conservation of the 21,700 acre West Grand Lake Community Forest. We are working to ensure the forests and lakes around Grand Lake Stream are permanently conserved and become part of the legacy of their remarkable lives.

Knowing that when faced with the loss of beloved family members, people see Downeast Lakes Land Trust as a worthy recipient of memorial donations is a great honor.

One of our newest supporters this year is just 11 years old. When he told his father he wanted to spend the allowance money he had saved to make a donation, his father asked why. The boy had two answers: "First, because I want the hat, and second, to help protect this place so I will always be able to come back and enjoy it".

Whether you support the land trust because you "want the hat" or because you care about the people and future of our region, I appreciate it!

Your stories and your concern for the future inspire me.

Thank you.

Mark Berry

NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

SYD LEA PRESIDENT, LEE WHITELY VICE-PRESIDENT

The fall of 2011 brings new leadership to Downeast Lakes Land Trust, with no change to our dedication to the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the region. Please join us in thanking Lindsay Wheaton and Louie Cataldo for their service as President and Vice President. Both are continuing on the Board of Directors.

Sydney Lea is our new President, and continues to Co-chair the West Grand Lake Community Forest campaign. In addition to his strong connection to our community, Syd makes his home in Vermont, and in November became Vermont's 7th poet laureate, the position first held by Robert Frost. His most recent book and ninth collection of poetry is *Young of the Year* (2011, Four Way Books). He just retired as a longtime professor in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program at Dartmouth College, and is a novelist, essayist, and editor. Please see his column on Page 2.

Lee Whitely, who we profiled in the November 2010 newsletter, is now Vice-President. Lee is a Registered Maine Guide and year-round resident of Grand Lake Stream, and also owns a camp on Fourth Machias Lake. He has a BS in Forestry and a Master's in Pulp and Paper Technology from the University of Maine, and worked as President of the Technical Papers Division and Director General of the Axhom Division of Lydall, Inc.

SUSAN LAPLANTE & DALE TOBEY JOIN BOARD

Susan LaPlante.

We are pleased to welcome Susan LaPlante and Dale Tobey to our Board of Directors. Sue is the principal of Princeton Elementary School and owns Chet's Camps, Grand Lake Stream Outdoor Adventures, and Canoe Maine with her husband Al. She chairs the DLLT Education Committee, is a Registered Maine Guide and has led wilderness canoe, hiking, and kayak expeditions for over two decades. Sue has a degree in elementary education and special education from Boston College, a Master's in recreation from Northeastern University, and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Maine. She has spent 29 years as a teacher and school administrator.

Dale is a year round resident of Grand Lake Stream. He is a town selectman, Registered Maine Guide, property caretaker, carpenter, and builder of Grand Lake Canoes and paddles. He has experience leading and serving on the boards of the Grand Lake Stream Guides Association and the Maine Professional Guides Association. He spent 25 years as owner and operator of a family sheet metal business in southern Maine before moving to Grand Lake Stream full-time in 2000.

Dale Tobey.

DOWNEAST LAKES

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Get more information and keep up to date at **www.downeastlakes.org**

History & Heritage Series, Fall 2011

Chainsaw Safety Workshop

Saturday, November 19, 10 am

DLLT and SWOAM co-sponsor this workshop on safety and saw operation, and we encourage our local firewood harvesters to attend.

"Tipping" Field Trip

Sunday, November 27, 2 pm

Learn how to harvest balsam fir "tips" on this trip into the Farm Cove Community Forest. Tips will be used at the wreath making workshop.

Wreath-making Workshop

Thursday, November 29, 6:00 pm

Join local wreath-makers for a workshop where you'll learn how to make your own holiday wreath — cocoa and cookies provided. Consider joining us to gather "tips" on November 27.

2012 Summer Events

Explorations & Adventures

Tuesdays, July – August 9:30-12 noon. (schedule for 2012 pending)

DLLT sponsors weekly educational activities for children ages 6-12, with all ages welcome to participate. Rain or shine.

History & Heritage Series

More Events to be scheduled for 2012; at www.downeastlakes.org

4th of July Festivities

Wednesday, July 4

Grand Lake Stream, America! This community event is becoming bigger and better every year. It includes meals, the parade, games, contests, entertainment, and the:

3rd Annual "Race For Grand Lake Stream"

A 3 mile foot race from Big Lake landing to the ball field in Grand Lake Stream - for walkers and runners.

Grand Lake Stream Guides Association Dinners

Friday & Saturday, July 27 & 28

Grand Lake Stream Folk Art Festival

Saturday-Sunday, July 28 & 29.

Live music and artisans, info at grandlakestreamfolkartfestival.com.

DLLT Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 29 , 12-2 pm.

8th Annual Meeting. Lunch served at 12. By reservation; look for the RSVP form in our summer newsletter or email info@downeastlakes.org.

West Grand Lake Race

Sunday, August 5 This will be the eighth annual race on West Grand Lake. Races for everyone, with awards and picnic lunch. Bring a canoe or kayak, and register before 10:30 am. Stay for a barbecue lunch. Don't miss it!

Downeast Lakes LAND TRUST

P.O. Box 75, Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637
207-796-2100
www.downeastlakes.org

Meet Joe Davis

Joe Davis, Foreman

Joe Davis is the foreman for Davis Forestry Products and oversees the crew that cuts timber on the Farm Cove Community Forest. Contributing to the economic well-being of Downeast Maine is central to our mission, and employing local contractors is an important part of how we accomplish our goals. The wood from the Community Forest supports jobs in the forest and at pulp, paper, and saw mills around Maine.

How many people work for you harvesting on the community forest?
"Usually one harvester, two skidders, two limbers, a crane operator, and four trucks, so eleven of us."

Is your work for the land trust an important part of your year?
"It's a big part of the year for this crew. It could become year-round work for us if the land trust buys the West Grand forest."

How did you get started working in the woods?
"My father owned the company. I'm a 3rd generation logger. I went to college and studied culinary arts, but I wanted to get back and work in the woods. My dad has put thirty years of hard work and risk into this family business. It would be very hard to walk away from."

How old are you now?
"I'm 30. I look forward to logging here for a very long time. I have a 12 year old little brother, and I hope he'll be able to do this type of work when he gets older. I've had my young son with me, and my father and grandfather. That's four generations together in the woods. We're fortunate to have young people coming up in the business. I consider myself very fortunate to live here and do what I do. I know everybody in the small community where I grew up, and know my kids are safe."

What do you like about your job?
"I like being in the outdoors. It's nice you can work, and see wildlife, even hunt. Just this morning I saw a deer on Daugherty Ridge."

What's different about working on the land trust?
"It's a little more challenging, because the harvests are more specific. We handle each stand completely differently, doing the right thing depending on the conditions, instead of doing the same thing everywhere."

Community News:

Smooth Travel

Grand Lake Stream has long been a destination. People don't frequently get here on their way somewhere else. Life here can feel a world apart from the hustle and bustle of cities and suburbs, but it is not hard to get here. Your next trip may be a little smoother, thanks to new pavement from Route 1 in Indian Township to the village. If you haven't been back for a while, stop by the Visitor's Guide at www.downeastlakes.org to plan a trip!

Downeast Lakes Conservation Awards

(Continued from page 1)

template for protecting our local economy and preserving our natural resources."

"I am truly honored to be a 2011 recipient of the Downeast Lakes Conservation Award. Maine is a state that is blessed with natural gifts, from our pure lakes to our majestic forests, our scenery is unrivaled. The people of Maine know that these gifts are not to be taken for granted, but must be cherished, nurtured, and protected. The environment in which I grew up is why I do all that I can to support conservation efforts like the West Grand Lake Community Forest Project," said Senator Collins.

"The West Grand project is a shining example of the outstanding land conservation efforts going on across Maine to maintain our working forest landscapes and traditional recreational uses," said Michaud. "I want to thank the Downeast Lakes Land Trust for this honor and their commitment to conservation."

Our Senators and Representatives have been strong advocates for Downeast Lakes Land Trust's forest conservation projects and federal conservation programs. Their support has been essential to our success. The U.S. Forest Service awarded $6,675,000 to Maine in 2011 for the #1 national priority West Grand Lake Community Forest Project from the Forest Legacy Program.

Downeast Lakes
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Downeast Lakes Land Trust
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Our Mission

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Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink
All photos by Downeast Lakes Land Trust

Special Edition Grand Lake Stream Prints Available

Artist Gretchen Mead of Whiting, Maine donated a beautiful original watercolor painting featuring the lakes and wildlife of Grand Lake Stream to benefit Downeast Lakes Land Trust.

We auctioned the framed original painting at our 2011 annual meeting, and Sally Mayer was the successful bidder. With permission from the artist, Sally has now generously donated special edition prints to the land trust.

Prints are available as a thank you gift with a donation of $100 or more, while supplies last, and have a market value of $20. Please mark "GLS Print" on your donation. We will ship to you (continental U.S.) or hold it for pickup. The print is also available with your secure online donation at www.downeastlakes.org.

Share Your Support!

We appreciate all you do for Downeast conservation. If you care about Maine's future, please also show your support!

There is no more powerful way to show your support than to invite friends and family to Grand Lake Stream and tell them why you're helping protect the place. There are other ways, too!

Let us know if you can use more DLLT window stickers for your car, truck, canoe, boat, or elsewhere.

If you use Facebook, please "Like" our page at facebook.com/downeast.lakes, write a recommendation, and share your enthusiasm on the "wall".

Subscribe and receive our email newsletter, then FORWARD it to your friends to let them know this matters to you.

Thank you!