

Dear Members and Friends:

We send Season's Greetings from The Greater Lovell Land Trust.

And we send many thanks to the Greater Lovell Community for enabling us to purchase the 603 acre Heald and Bradley Ponds Tract. The Community made it happen. We raised the \$400,000 to purchase the land, and an additional \$40,000 for the closing and transitional costs necessary to prepare the tract for use as a Town Park.

We thank the Town of Lovell, whose citizens voted at a special town meeting on November 19th to contribute \$7000 to the Heald and Bradley Project. We thank The Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for its \$100,000 matching grant, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for its \$50,000 matching grant, The Bingham Betterment Fund for its \$25,000 transitional planning period grant, and the Davis Conservation Fund for its \$15,000 grant to complete the project. In addition, there were over 350 individual contributors, a testament to the high value that they place on the environs of the Kezar Lake watershed, and the wish they have to preserve its quality and natural beauty.

I thank in addition, the numerous individuals who worked on fund raising in each section of the lake as well as the staff of the GLLT itself. This was a superb effort.

At present Tom Henderson chairs the Transition Committee which is working with the Town of Lovell, the abutters, individual citizens, and members of the land trust to come up with a satisfactory plan for recreational use of the land which will not compromise the water quality of Heald and Bradley, Boulder Brook, and Lake Kezar. The GLLT plans to place appropriate conservations easements on the land, grant traditional usages, recommend appropriate hiking trails, and turn the land over to the Town of Lovell for use as a park.

We continue to welcome inquiries and are working on additional conservation easements at this time. When the Heald and Bradley easements are completed, we will have over 1240 acres protected in perpetuity. In addition, we have agreed to take over from TNC the easements of the Sucker Brook amd Sabra-Creeper Hill preserves. Finally, Kevin Harding utilizing a \$20,000 grant from TNC, will lead and develop a Nature Education Program centered around our lakes and ponds.

Please reserve Saturday, August 2nd, 1997 for our Eighth Annual Educational program.

Everyone who contributed to the Heald and Bradley Projects is automatically a member of the GLLT for 1996-97. We enclose an envelope for those who may still wish to join or to make donations to our unrestricted and endowment funds in order to meet our current obligations and new challenges. We certainly understand that many have already made a maximum contribution this year and we deeply appreciate it.

We thank you again and wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely

Howard A. Corwin, M.D.

President

POLICY STATEMENT

The mission of the Greater Lovell Land Trust is to protect and enhance the quality of Kezar Lake and to provide alternative land development in the Kezar Lake watershed in the towns of Lovell, Stoneham, and Stow.

The Trust, a non-profit alternative to the powers of state and local governments, works exclusively to fulfill the public purposes expressed in Maine conservation laws, such as the Great Ponds Act, the Shoreline Zoning Act, and Town Zoning Regulations.

Through purchase, gift, acquisition of development rights, and the voluntary placing of conservation covenants on property, the Trust works to ensure planned land development in the watershed of Kezar Lake. The Trust cooperates with public, educational, and non-profit groups in educational efforts directed at preserving water quality, land management, and establishing realistic land development options and alternatives.

The Trust does not prevent appropriate land development within the watershed area, but works to ensure that all development efforts comply with existing state and local legislation.

The Trust has begun to acquire and reserve from development specific parcels and easements to protect land of special esthetic, habitat, or other considerations.

Acquisition of land by the Trust is accomplished through negotiation and voluntary cooperation with private landowners. All gifts to the Trust are tax deductible, fully recognized under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

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