



November 22, 1988

Times Record reporter, Jim McCarthy, writes article titled “Pair Pushes Land Trust for Lower Kennebec Towns”

February, 1989

Organizational Committee Formed:
Bill Blaiklock, Arrowsic
Jack Witham, Arrowsic
Tom Barrington, Bath
Natalie Kavin, Bath
Hal Bonner, Georgetown
John Doane, Phippsburg
Chris Hall, Woolwich

August 16, 1989

1st Annual Meeting of LKRLT held at the Cosmopolitan Club in Bath. Gene Dumont, Regional Wildlife Biologist spoke on “Wildlife Resources of Merrymeeting Bay and the Lower Kennebec Region.” Members on their knees looking at maps.



Fall 1990

Membership Goal met - 100 members and a healthy bank balance!

Acres owned

Acres under easement

November 30, 1988

35 people attend meeting at Patten Free Library to discuss formation of a Lower Kennebec Land Trust.

Arrowsic, Bath, Georgetown, Phippsburg, West Bath and Woolwich representatives attend the gathering organized by Jack Witham and Bill Blaiklock.

March 8, 1989

1st membership meeting of the newly formed Lower Kennebec Regional Land Trust held at Patten Free Library. Jim Dow of the Nature Conservancy spoke on “The Nature Conservancy and Land Trusts- Working Together”.

Tax exempt status granted.

Fall 1989

Now more than 70 land trusts in Maine, representing 10% of entire nation.





Winter 1991

LKRLT receives first easement!
A major portion on Long Island across from Fort Popham covering more than 80 acres and two miles of shoreline.



Spring 1992

75 Bat Houses sold to raise money for LKRLT.

Fall 1994

Bowdoinham analyzes costs and benefits of large housing development on 307 acre farm, concluding that “Undeveloped land is the best tax break a town has.”

South Portland study reveals city cost of \$1.30 in services for every \$1.00 in taxes generated from developed properties.

Acres owned

Acres under easement

80

Summer 1991

Annual meeting held at Cosmopolitan Club, speaker was Dr. Peter Larsen of Bigelow Labs on the Kennebec Area Research Endowment, noting the estuary as “the largest macrotidal estuary in the contiguous 48 states.”



Fall 1993

Alternative Minimum Tax laws changed to allow deduction of full value of gifts of appreciated property. This may substantially increase the value of easement and land donations.



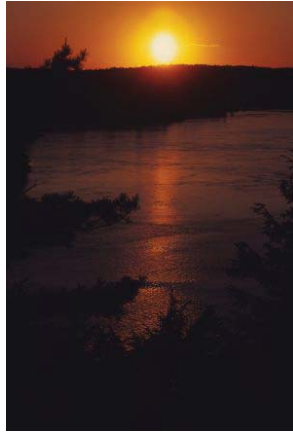
1994 Year End

Operating expenses remain under “careful control”. Total expenses were \$1,037.45.

Spring 1995

Three major “stretch” objectives established:

1. Expand membership in Woolwich
2. Accomplish a major conservation project in the Back River corridor
3. Develop a record of accurate land-owner data



Fall 1995

Soldier Point easement completed along Goose Rock Passage on the lower Sasanoa in Georgetown.

LKRLT joins Maine Wetlands Coalition



Summer 1997

Tidal marsh study completed identifying 71 marsh systems over 5 acres. Ecological integrity relatively intact, however most showed signs of human disturbance, including tidal restrictions, fill, ditches and invasive species.

87

Fall 1995

Bill Blaiklock recognized for his 7 years of service, first as founder then board president. “Your grace, guidance and leadership... has been a vital factor in our success.”



241

Fall 1996

Jason and Virginia Schoener donate easement on 154 acres in Georgetown.

The land includes woodland, rock outcrops, significant shore frontage on Robinhood Cove and a large hill along Route 127 known as the “sledding hill”.



435

Summer 1997

LKRLT receives grant from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct an evaluation of tidal marshes in the region.