



Woodie Wheaton Land Trust

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We're Hiring an Executive Director

*Some of the best employees
are found from referrals.*

We welcome yours!



ED Job Posting

Our search for the perfect candidate has begun. The future Executive Director will have the drive to take us to the next level. They will possess a positive attitude, share our pride in the history and heritage of the Trust and also be passionate about our mission and community.

If you or someone you know would like to apply, please send a resume and a cover letter to the attention of Jill

Wheaton at office@woodiewheaton.org.

Scan the QR code to the left for a complete job description.

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WOODIE WHEATON LAND TRUST

CONSERVATION NOTES

Issue 23, Fall 2022

SAM SHINE MATCHING GRANT FUNDRAISER

As I sit here looking out the window at the magnificent landscape, I am reminded of how lucky I am to live in this beautiful place. The air is crisp and clean. The shade trees act as a canopy of serenity as they show off their vivid colors. The appearance of the lake has changed. The inviting blue hue of summer has been replaced by a sharper, crisper blue; another reminder that fall is here and summer has again passed by. No matter the season, the outdoors of the Chiputneticook Lakes region of eastern Maine and western New Brunswick doesn't disappoint.

Those who were born and raised here are passionate about what we have and about sharing it with others. If you have vacationed here, sat in the stern of a canoe, taken in the natural beauty of the region, or heard one fish story after another, you understand. If you have built relationships over the years with locals that seem like family, you understand. If your

experiences here have touched your life and led you to support the WWLT, you understand. This is why we are asking for your help.

WWLT continues its fundraising efforts on behalf of the Headwaters Forest in Amity, Maine. Last fall, we secured the 421-acre Clark Brook parcel, completing protection of the U.S. side of Monument Brook along with substantial frontage along one of its major feeder streams. With our prior acquisitions, 4400 acres of high-value fish and wildlife habitat upstream of East Grand and North Lakes, are permanently protected, along with lake and stream quality. The last purchase happened quickly, and we turned to our savings to do it.

This spring, the Sam Shine Foundation pledged a matching grant of up to \$50,000 to spur the creation of

a trail system in the Headwaters, and up to another \$43,000 to fund ongoing stewardship in the Headwaters for years to come. Both are critical to our efforts. The offer expires at year-end, and we need your help to meet our goal!

Thanks to the generosity of several local businesses, you can support our initiative and have the chance to win any of \$6,000 worth of prizes. Tickets can be purchased online, or they can be paid for with cash or check by specifying your ticket request when mailing back the attached envelope. Upon receipt (cash/check/online), we will email your ticket stub back to the address provided. Hurry, we are only selling 825 tickets, so purchase yours today! Tickets will be on sale until December 24th, 2022, and winners will be announced on New Year's Day 2023 via our website.

For prize details, please refer to page 7 of this newsletter.

Thank you for your support!



A Note From the President



Jill Wheaton



Dear Members,

"Capacity building" was the buzz at this year's annual meeting, and for good reason: with aging founders and big goals still afoot, WWLT is turning its attention to the future.

What is it? Capacity building isn't just about a nonprofit's capacity today, it's about the nonprofit's ability to deliver its mission effectively now,



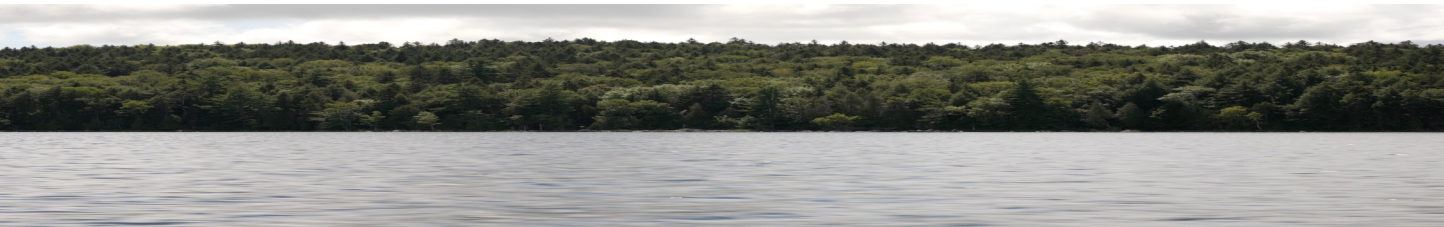
and in the future. According to the National Council of Nonprofits, "Capacity building is an investment in the effectiveness and future sustainability" of an organization.

Distinct capacity building projects at WWLT include ensuring thoughtful leadership succession, identifying a communications strategy, improving volunteer recruitment, keeping our equipment and infrastructure up to date, and business planning for revenue generation (to name a few). It has become clear that the

demands of our growing adolescent organization now require full-time staff attention to achieve strong and sustainable adulthood.



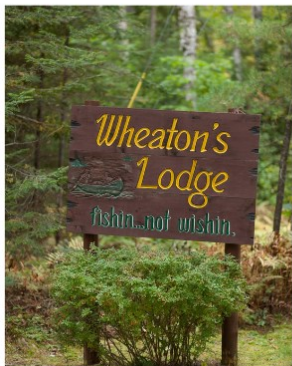
To that end, we are actively pursuing a full time Executive Director with fundraising experience to champion these initiatives. Our application window is currently open and will remain open until we find the right candidate. We warmly welcome your referrals! Please direct inquiries to Hiring Committee Chair David Bianco at office@woodiewheaton.org or to our job posting at the QR code below:



MATCHING
GRANT RAFFLE
FUNDRAISER
HEADWATERS FOREST



Woodie Wheaton
LAND TRUST



Raffle
TICKETS

Help us reach our fundraising goal by purchasing your choice of 5 different raffle tickets!

What You Could Win:

- **\$100/ticket:** One week stay for 2 people at either First Settlers Lodge or Grand Lake Cottages. Includes 2 days with a Registered Maine Guide & shore lunches. OR \$1,000 off a stay at Wheaton's Lodge.
- **\$50/ticket:** Three night stay for 2 people at Grand Lake Cottages. Includes 1 day with a Registered Maine Guide & a shore lunch.
- **\$25/ticket:** Set of custom, handcrafted corn hole boards displaying the WWLT logo, proudly made in Maine.

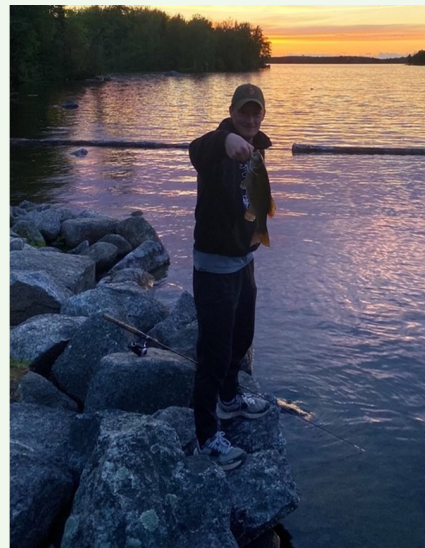
Lodge dates subject to availability.

Summer 2022 Internship

I'm Nick Male, and my summer in Forest City working at the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust was everything I expected and more. While relocating to an unorganized township for the summer might intimidate some for its lack of social interaction, the community and social networks run deep here and there is never a shortage of things to do or people to see. The day of my arrival, I was greeted and welcomed by almost everyone in town (all 25 of them!). I began hearing fishing stories and noticed I was being sized up to see if I would fit in.

Being an intern at this organization was extremely useful for my future career because I was valued for my own experience and given the creative freedom to pursue topics that I am passionate about, and ultimately to create meaningful projects for the trust. Rather than editing spreadsheets and doing other dull work that is typical of internships, I had my boots on the ground and I was trusted to complete assignments in many areas relating to the trust. Activities like site monitoring and trail maintenance were always welcome, and it was remarkable to see almost all of the areas the trust has helped conserve. Researching grant opportunities was another way I was able to incorporate my own interests into the work while making significant strides for the environment. The bonds I forged and the knowledge I gained this past summer resonated with me and make me eager to stay in touch with WWLT and hopefully become a member to continue to advance their mission.

-Nick Male, WWLT 2022 Intern



Hello! My name is Jimmy Kavanagh and I had the pleasure of serving the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust as one of this year's summer interns. My internship provided me with valuable experience in the world of conservation and land management through my active involvement in property surveys, stewardship projects, and community outreach programs. Though this was my first time visiting the quaint and charming Forest City, Maine, each and every person I met this summer was more than ready to make sure I felt welcomed in their small community. I was particularly taken aback by the sheer natural beauty that surrounded the waters of East Grand Lake. It seemed there was always something

new to discover about the fascinating ecology in this reach of the Country. I am currently finishing my final semester at

Virginia Tech, where I am studying environmental resource management with minors in forestry and watershed assessment. While I am still not certain what career path lies ahead of me, I am forever grateful to the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust for giving me the opportunity to get a real boots-on-the-ground experience working to protect our lakes, forests, and animals.

"Koolele Mooke!"*

-Jimmy Kavanagh,
WWLT 2022 Intern

**Unwritten term in Passamaquoddy dialect which means good or happy fishing. Passamaquoddy guides who guided with Woodie said this to each other when they left for fishing in the morning.*



It's Not All About the Mushrooms

By: Esther Tozier

Wild Child Botanicals, LLC.

Sometime in May, thoughts turn to mushroom forays. Baskets and bags are brought out, knives are sharpened, lucky apparel is put in the front of the closet and hiking gear is readied. All in anticipation of The Hunt.

The hunt for the most diverse, mystical, medicinal, nutritional, legendary, awe-inspiring, and sometimes most elusive creations on the planet- the prized mushrooms.

One day soon, a day full of sunshine will come when the mushrooms begin sprouting, and you set out with all your favorite mushrooming gear, eager to find those tasty treasures.

Searching for the choice edibles requires you to be present and aware of All that encompasses your surroundings and your reactions to them.

Often in life, in our daily lives and adventures, we focus on the ultimate goal rather than moments that fill the space, the sights, the sounds, things, people, and feelings that all of our experiences bring.

A much slower pace than our everyday lives afford most of us is necessary to

spot our favorite mushrooms. They grow everywhere, from the tree tops, to the ground beneath your feet.

So that makes a mushroom hunt, the perfect time to reconnect with the natural world and yourself.

Take this time, after you enter the woods, stand silently, observing the details that your eyes can see. Close your eyes, breathe deeply, and relax.



What are the sounds and smells that you Experience? Feel the warmth of the sun and the breeze as it floats by you.

Just Be, in this moment, in this place and time. Appreciate yourself, and all those that surround you.

Now, that you have had a moment to find yourself, let's go look for mushrooms.

A brisk hike this is not, its more of a meandering pace, not inclined to a set

destination. Unless the mushrooms are there, of course.

A slow steady walk, noting your surroundings, leads you to spot those perky white shells growing all over a maple tree to the right of the trail. Stepping off the trail, you "bushwack" your way to the tree - all the while face beaming with the joy of discovery and anticipation of the meals to come.

This is what the hunt is all about, that feeling that all is right in your world, the joy and wonder of the bounty growing all around us. The absolute thrill of finding a great edible to help fill the pantry.

Here are just a few of our favorite easy edible mushrooms to go on a hunt for.

Puffballs -Clavatia gigantea

Gem studded puffball – Lycoperdon perlatum

Oysters – Pleurotus ostreatus, Pleurotus populinus, and Pleurotus pulmonarius

Chanterelles – Cantharellus cibarius

Lobster Mushroom – Hypomyces Lactifluorum

***Some mushrooms are toxic. Make sure you or someone with you knows which ones are safe to eat and which are not.**

GUIDES CORNER

Featuring: Andy Brooks

This veteran of 40 years in a Grand Laker and around Wheaton’s Lodge began in 1982. Andy came with a group of optometrists to Wheaton’s Lodge at “ice out”. It was this trip that made Andy inquisitive about what a day entailed as a guide. Dale saw his aptitude, mentioned he needed a hand to guide, and said, “I could give you 16 days guiding in June”. He went out alone on Spednic on day one, and on day two guided with my dad, Woodie, and learned the lunch protocol. At the end of the day, Dale upped the ante, “I can keep you going all summer”. A top guide, Andy Brooks, now a cornerstone and leader of the guide corps, is still here.

Andy was a founding member and past vice president of the board of directors of the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust and was president of the Forest

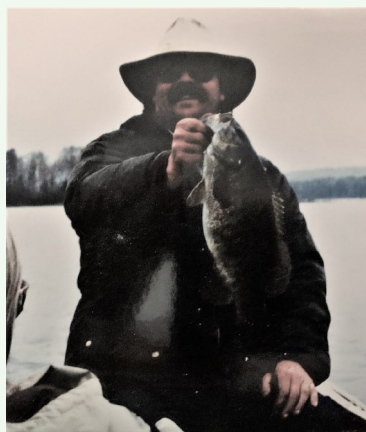


City guides association. When the “For Sale” sign was posted on Birch Island, his inspirational words were, “We have to buy this island even if we have to pool

our own money”. His watchful eye, daily monitoring of our conservation efforts around the Lakes, and personal pride in keeping up this valued fishery set a standard for others. You will find his image is prominent within cell phone galleries of great fish and great times and his services are always in high demand among a long list of returning fishermen.

His professional resume includes honed skills on the paddle and tiller of a Grand Laker, finding fish without lockjaw, and having strong interpersonal connections with his sportsman. Practical experience, the hallmark of a professional, like always assessing weather conditions, pre-planning lunch and fishing spots, having all the right gear for the day, and evaluating clients’ skills, make for a memorable day on the lake. It goes without saying, Andy is an old-school guide. His clients’ safety comes first and foremost daily, and his quiver of stories is the perfect companion for enjoyable adventures.

By: Art Wheaton



THE WWLT THANKS ITS LOCAL BUSINESSES

Earlier this season we reached out to *Dave’s Hardware* and *The Mill Yard* in Danforth to help sponsor our boat parade. They were very gracious and provided us with gift certificates to put in our prize bag for best float.

Our interns were tasked this summer with identifying two locations along Monument Brook for campsites. Once the spots were chosen and approved, picnic tables had to be built. *JMM Tree Service* in Hodgdon, ME, generously provided the lumber and delivered it to the WWLT Center so that Nick and Jimmy could build the tables. The tables are now on those campsites.

The Sam Shine Matching Grant raffle would not be possible without the continued support from *Grand Lake Cottages* and *Wheaton’s Lodge* of Forest City, *First Settlers Lodge* of Weston, ME, and *Soule’s Woodworking* of Sidney, ME. They were instrumental in helping to get this fundraiser off the ground.

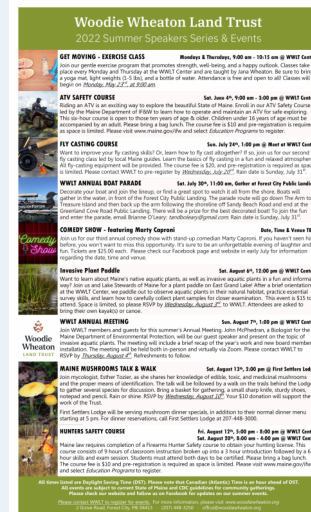
We are grateful for the support of these local businesses.

If you know of a business that would like to support the WWLT please have them reach out to office@woodiewheaton.org or call 207-448-3250. We feature our partners on our website, social media posts, email blasts and newsletters.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The WWLT Outreach Committee wants to hear from you! We have noticed a decrease in event interest and attendance, and we want to assure that our events calendar is relevant and of interest to our membership and the surrounding area.

Please be on the lookout for an email from the WWLT inviting you to participate in an anonymous poll, which will seek to understand what kind of events people enjoy, and how we can continue to reach out to people in an impactful way.



A Guides Perspective by our new Board Member



Daniel Daggett

Monday, June 7, 2021, I drove from Brookton to Forest City for my first official day guiding at Wheaton’s Lodge at the ripe old age of 51. As I rounded the sharp right-hand corner coming into the village, I was taken by the tranquility, peacefulness, and beauty of what I consider the quaintest hamlet in Maine. As anyone reading this newsletter can attest, it hasn’t changed, and my memories go back to my early youth when my father, mother, and I would come and visit my great-uncle, Waldo Brooks.

Although my father was from Brookton, he moved to Bath during WWII, met Mom, and that’s where he settled. We always spent the month of August and the week of Thanksgiving in Brookton, fishing, hunting, and foraging. It’s where my heart has always been. So, when my wife and I decided to sell our home in southern Maine and move permanently to Brookton, it was a dream come true. Well, almost. The icing on the cake was to guide for Wheaton’s.

Sitting in the back of my canoe for the past two seasons, I’ve taken keen notice of how the sports love the place! I listen to the folks I’m guiding, ask

questions about their memories from past trips here, and try to make their experience with me new. Having grown up on Baskahegan Lake—as did my father and his father, and his father—it holds a special place in my heart, as do a few locations on the lake. I find no greater joy than taking folks into a little cove and telling them it’s my favorite place, or that this was my mother’s favorite spot in the world—then sharing with them why. Everyone I’ve spoken to just sat back and took it all in as if I’ve shared a million dollars with them. That’s when I know how special a place we have. It’s And that’s why I’m honored to serve on the land trust Board, to help preserve and protect what a unique place we have, a place I’m blessed to call home.

If you haven’t shared this area with those you hold dear, please do. It’s a rare gem. I, along with my fellow guides, would be happy to take them to some of our favorite places as well.

Please visit www.woodiewheaton.org/about to learn more about our newest Board member, Daniel Daggett.

