

# The Kennebec Land Trust NEWS

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331 Main Street, Winthrop, Maine 04364    [www.tkl.org](http://www.tkl.org)    207-377-2848



## TAKE A HIKE! NEW KLT TRAIL GUIDE

*Theresa Kerchner, Executive Director*

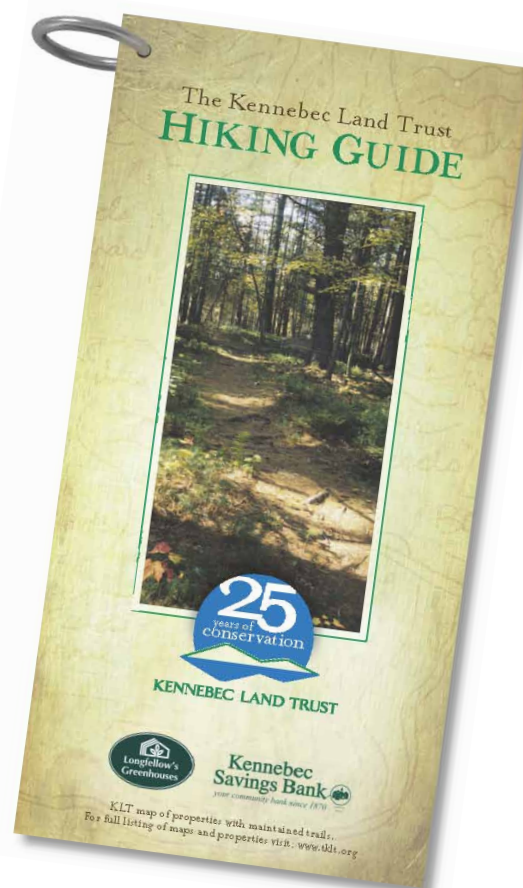
We are proud to announce that KLT is publishing a Guide to twenty of our permanently conserved properties, including our beautiful lake islands. Each page includes a trail map, directions, public uses, lake access points, and noteworthy natural features.

We are grateful to the many generous KLT Business Partners who sponsored pages in the guide. Please frequent these local businesses and thank them for supporting conservation! (See page 8.)

Many thanks to the LPK Foundation, in particular Rick Conner and Dayna Zawoysky, for making the publication of this book possible. LPK, a design and marketing firm in Cincinnati, Ohio, is committed to social responsibility and environmental sustainability. Mort Libby, former CEO of LPK, and his wife Barbara are East Winthrop summer residents and members of our Advisory Board.

Copies of the Guide will be available in August at our office, local bookstores, and area businesses, and can also be ordered online at KLT's website.

Happy trails to all of us!

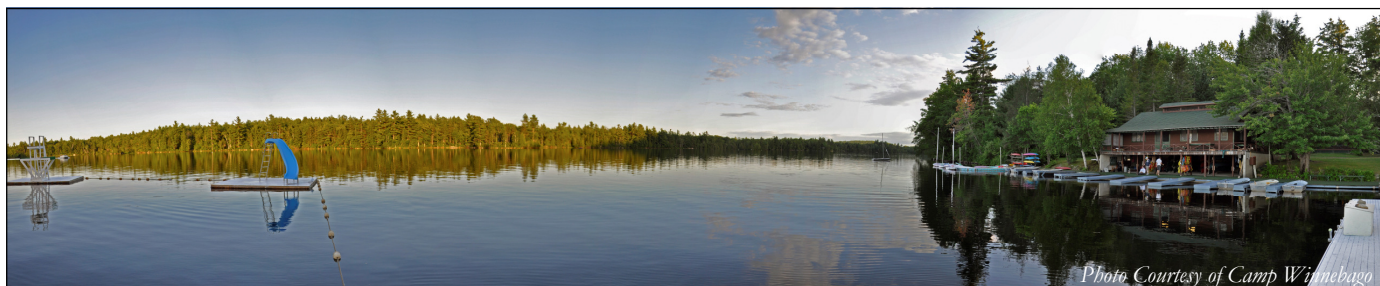


**25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**  
**AUGUST 24, 2014 - PLEASE JOIN US**  
**CAMP WINNEBAGO, ECHO LAKE**  
**9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.\***

KLT's celebration will feature a Tri-Sport Challenge (see page 5), plein-air and photography workshops, children's activities, music by the Gawler Family, a potluck cookout lunch, and a reunion with former KLT presidents, directors, members, and interns.

\*Join us for all or part of the day.

Thank you **Camp Winnebago!**



*Photo Courtesy of Camp Winnebago*

## PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Our land trust has been hard at work this year! KLT's list of accomplishments attests to the sustained efforts of our volunteers, board members, and staff. We have settled into our new office at 331 Main Street in Winthrop and increased staff hours to accommodate our land trust's highly successful work.

We had a wonderful Lyceum, with excellent speakers who talked about how populations of butterflies, birds, and fish are affected by the region's ecology, history, and climate (see page 7). We are looking forward to our July nature camp for kids and our summer field programs, and our 25th year celebration at Camp Winnebago looks to be a fun, memorable day for all.

Quietly and effectively, KLT's Lands Committee continues to work with landowners to help them develop and realize conservation outcomes. We are proud to announce that we have recently conserved two new properties:



Brian Kent,  
KLT President



Photograph: Mark Nelsen

### **SAMUEL HUTCHINSON HOMESTEAD CONSERVATION AREA - 142 ACRES, LITCHFIELD**

The Samuel Hutchinson Conservation Area encompasses 142 acres of fields, woods, wetlands and streams that are now protected from development forever. This conservation easement – generously donated by Lindsay and Mark Nelsen – includes their historic, restored homestead.

Contiguous to KLT's Small-Burnham Conservation Area, this land is now part of a 392-acre block of conserved land in Litchfield. Under the terms of the easement the land will be available for agriculture and sustainable forestry. In donating this easement to KLT, Mark and Lindsay noted that for over forty years, "this land has been our home, our connection to the earth and our community; an unflinching anchor in our lives. Now, thanks to the Kennebec Land Trust, it is protected from development forever."

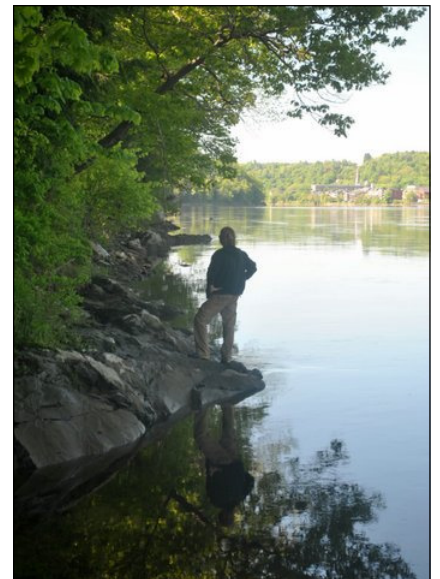
Thanks to the Nelsens' generosity, KLT will now be able to expand its trail network from the adjacent Small-Burnham easement. A property and trail dedication will be held on September 24, 2014 – please plan ahead to join us.

### **JUDY KANE PARCEL~ KENNEBEC RIVER CONSERVATION CORRIDOR - 26 ACRES, AUGUSTA**

KLT is honored to accept a donation of 26 acres of woodland on the east side of the Kennebec River from the family of Judy Kane. This generous gift to our 25th Anniversary Capital Campaign could provide the first link for an east side recreational corridor. In donating this property, KLT's first conservation property in Augusta, Kevin and his family noted:

"Judy Kane (4/16/47 to 11/29/12) and I courted on the Connecticut River in 1969 and were drawn to the Kennebec River, which has so many similar virtues and where we have spent many hours exploring rare habitats and species. When some land on the river came for sale in the 1990s at a very good price, we grabbed it with vague notions of what the 'purpose' may be, and with the joy of knowing we had a 'foothold' on the Kennebec. It is with greatest pleasure that we honor Judy's conservation principles by donating the little piece of unique property on the river to KLT and the people of Kennebec County."

*Kevin Kane, Nolan Kane, and Ailene Kane Ettinger*



Photograph: Brian Kent

We are planning a property dedication in the spring of 2015, when we will honor and remember Judy Kane and recognize her family's commitment to land conservation.



## 25TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN CONSERVATION ACROSS GENERATIONS

Many of you have heard that KLT is engaged in the first phase of a capital campaign to ensure that we have the resources necessary to support our current and future work. Our 25th Anniversary Campaign aims to build an endowment, establish a strong Conservation Fund\*, and acquire or place easements on outstanding conservation properties. To date, our directors, advisors, business partners, and several lead donors have pledged over \$835,000. Thank you!

We will be mailing information about KLT's Campaign with your fall annual membership letter. First and foremost, we hope that each of you will plan ahead to increase your annual membership support. Membership gifts provide the financial foundation for our work. One of our generous donors has pledged to match all membership donations dollar for dollar up to a total of \$100,000 in 2014. **All membership donations in 2014 and 2015 will be counted towards our Capital Campaign goal.**

Please contact Theresa if you would like to discuss a donation to the Campaign. We are looking forward to talking with you about KLT's future! (tkerchner@tklt.org; 377-2848)

### PROPOSED KLT LAND ACQUISITIONS

At this time, the Lands Committee has recommended and the board has approved two new projects that will be acquired with funds donated to KLT's Conservation Fund.



*Photograph: Dale Waldron*

#### HOWARD HILL ~ 164 ACRES, AUGUSTA

Augusta's Howard Hill is a unique landmark of statewide significance – 164 acres of woodland that serves as the backdrop to the Capitol. Owned in the 1890s by William Howard Gannett, Howard Hill was transformed at the turn of the last century into an estate called Ganneston Park, which had gardens, trails, carriage paths, and ponds. Today Howard Hill is one of the largest open spaces in Augusta.

KLT is poised to purchase Howard Hill in cooperation with the City of Augusta. We have applied for funding from private and public foundations and will be soliciting support from donors statewide. This is an ambitious endeavor! We currently have an application before the Land for Maine's Future (LMF) program, with a decision pending in July 2015. Funding from LMF is critical to the success of this project.

#### PARKER POND HEADLAND-DAVID POND CORRIDOR 65 ACRES, FAYETTE

This proposed KLT acquisition will provide a critical link in a Parker Pond-David Pond wildlife habitat corridor. The property includes extensive wetlands and woodlands, a small bog pond, and streams that flow into David and Parker Ponds. Many of you are familiar with the beautiful forests, shoreland, and trails on KLT's 140-acre Parker Headland property. This new parcel will provide additional opportunities for hiking trails and will protect water quality and wildlife habitat.

**Happy Anniversary to KLT and to the hundreds of volunteers and donors who make our work possible!**

*Brian and Theresa*



KLT's David Pond Conservation Area  
*Photograph: Norm Rodrigue*

\* Cash gifts, grants, and pledges to KLT's Conservation Fund will support new land purchases, trail development, stewardship, our kid's nature camp and our conservation and outdoor recreation programs.

## KLT STAFF AND BOARD NEWS



### Jeannie Scudder, Board Member

Jeannie is a retired director of Media News Group, a national newspaper company previously headquartered in Denver. She has worked in conservation as a staff member and trustee at Maine Audubon, on the staff of the State Planning Office, and as trustee chair at the Nature Conservancy. She has an undergraduate degree in plant physiology and a graduate degree in literature. She has two children and lives in Readfield.

### Selena Bachelder, Summer Intern



I am a rising senior at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, majoring in Environmental Studies with Spanish and biology minors, with a strong background in Marine Science as well. I grew up in Readfield, Maine, and have always had an immense passion for environmental activism. Through my time at Eckerd I have been active in environmental initiatives around campus, including working for the recycling and composting programs, serving as president of an environmental club, and being a member of the student government environmental responsibility committee. I'm thrilled to be a conservation intern at KLT, where I hope to apply and expand my skills and knowledge. I expect this to be an extremely well-rounded experience, and I'm especially looking forward to the research aspect of the work. There is nowhere else I'd rather spend my summer than in my home state of Maine.

## WELCOME NEW KLT MEMBERS!

Ray & Wendy Beaudoin	Carole Hicks	Amanda Meader	Dave Schumacher	Walter McKee & Kristin Aiello
Aaron Chrostowsky	Kaitlyn Ireland	Charles Meyer	Judy Schneider	David & Dorothy McAllister
Barbara Clarke	Joyce Weaver Johnson	Susan Monnier	Matthew Silverman	Paul & Denise Silverman
Eileen Coyne	Peter & Kelly Kelley	Lauren Parker	Jessica Smith	Valerie Stanfill & John Wood
Diane Dahlke	David & Karen Krug	Bonnie Perkins	Carolyn C. Stevens	Lowell & Joan Toenniessen
Stephen Deyrup	Carolyn Ladd	Dana Roberts	Judy Swaim	Helen Warren & David Blocker
Jill Ducharme	Kirstie Ludwig	Mary & Bob Sadler	Kathy Swain	Richard Weaver
Norman A. Gosline	Cynthia McPherson	Chris St. Pierre	Pauline Therriault	Marshall Wright & Karen Webster
Jayne Ham				

### KLT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Brian Kent**,  
President, Litchfield

**Beth Nagusky**,  
Vice-President, Litchfield

**Amy Trunnell**,  
Treasurer, Readfield

**Mary Denison**,  
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Sue Bell, Augusta

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Lisa Kane, South China

Howard Lake, Readfield

Scott Longfellow, Manchester

Bob Marvinney, Readfield

Bob Mohlar, Readfield

Patrice Putman, Winthrop

Norm Rodrigue, Manchester

Jean Scudder, Readfield

Mike Seitzinger, Augusta

Deb Sewall, Hallowell

Joseph Stevenson, Fayette

#### KLT STAFF

Theresa Kerchner  
*Executive Director*

Gina Lamarche  
*Program Director*

Nicole Rhodes  
*Stewardship Director*

Matt Silverman  
*Conservation Assistant*

Selena Bachelder  
*2014 Summer Intern*

Jerry Bley

Harold Burnett

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Rebecca Stanley

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Robert Weston

#### KLT News Design

Gina Lamarche

**KLT News Editors**

Theresa Kerchner

Janie Matrisciano

Deb Sewall



## NOTES FROM THE STEWARDSHIP DESK

*Nicole Rhodes, Stewardship Director*

Summer is in the air, with flowers popping open and our stewardship team scurrying to pick up branches left on the trails this winter. We also have several fresh trail maps to assist in navigation thanks to Conservation Assistant Matt Silverman and the Center for Community GIS. I am in the process of updating our management plans to ensure that each property's conservation values are protected with the best management practices. We recently acquired a wonderful new easement—the Samuel Hutchinson Homestead Conservation Area (SHHCA) in Litchfield. The SHHCA shares a boundary with the Small-Burnham Conservation Area, totaling 392 acres of conserved land.

Trail work is already well under way. Winthrop High School students resurfaced Mt. Pisgah's Tower Trail and hauled planks for bog bridging on the Blueberry Trail. Kents Hill School students helped maintain the Matthews Wildlife Habitat, built a new trail through Macdonald Woods, and built new bog bridges over a muddy part of the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat trails. Thank you to our volunteer stewards, who made all these trail work days possible!

A Maine Conservation Corps group spent a week at the Davidson Nature Preserve, opening the blueberry fields and honing chainsaw skills. Another MCC group is building stone steps on a steeply sloped portion of Mt. Pisgah's Blueberry Trail. We are thrilled to work with such professional crews.

Our new summer intern, Selena Bachelder, will help coordinate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary programs, assist with file management to prepare for Land Trust Alliance Accreditation, and learn to identify and remove invasive plants on our conserved lands.

As you and your family map out your summer plans, I hope you will consider exploring familiar and less familiar trails in our region. Look to our properties page at <http://www.tklt.org/propertymap/> for outing ideas. I hope to see you on the trails!

*Nicole*



Students volunteer at Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat during Kent's Hill School Community Service Day.  
*Photograph: Nicole Rhodes*

## CANOE RACK RENTAL SPACE ON HUTCHINSON POND

We are pleased to announce that KLT is now renting spaces on a rack at our 81-acre Hutchinson Pond Conservation Area—just 100 feet from the shoreline! KLT members wishing to store a non-motorized boat for the season may apply by completing a Hutchinson Pond Boat Storage Application (available online at [www.tklt.org/hutchinsoncanoe/](http://www.tklt.org/hutchinsoncanoe/)) and submitting it to KLT along with a check in the amount of \$50, the annual storage fee.

Thank you to the volunteers who built our rack: Norm Rodrigue led a crew that included Andy Smith, Toby Smith, Dan Simpson, David Ellis, Tom Simonez, and Syd Sewall. The lumber for our rack was milled by Nat and Bruce Bell from trees we harvested during our Curtis Homestead forestry program.

Photographs: Norm Rodrigue and Andy Smith, canoe rack construction volunteers.

*Photograph by: Syd Sewall, canoe rack construction volunteer.*



## BUILDING A BOG BRIDGE 101

*Nicole Rhodes, Stewardship Director*

A *bog* bridge is a simple elevated boardwalk used in saturated areas on a trail. A bridge is a structure crossing flowing water, and requires further detail not covered in this article.\* A bog bridge's design is likely to be determined by the lumber you have available. Rough-cut hemlock or cedar boards are ideal, since they are relatively rot-resistant and do not contain toxic chemicals from pressure treating. KLT sources local lumber when possible, and we hope to provide a list of local lumber yards in the near future! We generally look for 4" x 10" x 8' boards, which provide sturdy footing without too much "bounce" in the middle of the bridge, though an extra footer can be placed under the middle of the bridge to stabilize it.

The "sleepers" of the bog bridge can be round or square, and the size depends on how high off the ground you want your bridge to be. For most muddy areas, 6" diameter posts or even 4"x 4" poles work well. The sleepers should be cut 6 to 10 inches longer than the sum of two board widths, though you may need to improvise given your trail conditions. Crushed rock or stones can be placed beneath and alongside the sleepers to increase stability or to raise the bridge above very mucky soil.

We use two 8" x 3/8" spikes to tie each board to the sleeper – it is helpful to pre-drill holes for the spikes. A sledgehammer will help drive the spikes into a hairline above the board. If the nail is sunk into the board (as you might want to do in a home, where you could finish the surface off with spackling), water will sit in the small hole and hasten rot. Likewise, it is good to space the two boards one-half to one inch apart to allow rain to flow quickly off the boards. If you are installing several bridges in a row, it is good to leave 1 to 2 inches of space between the two bridges and to keep them relatively level (or chisel a slope) to reduce tripping.

Now you're ready to build a bog bridge! Please note, bog bridging is just one option for wet trails. Rock paths, gravel, or wood chips may be a better alternative for your particular trail. And always feel free to contact Nicole Rhodes at [nrhodes@tklt.org](mailto:nrhodes@tklt.org) with any trail building questions.

\* Visit <http://www.maine.gov/dep/how-do-i/how-do-i.html?id=318577> if you have questions about permitting for building a bridge over flowing water.



KLT Newsletter Sponsor

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## 2014 LYCEUM REPORT

*Robert Kimber, KLT Advisory Board Member*

Central to ecology is the notion—to state it in vastly oversimplified terms—that all things in the natural world, we humans included, are related. “The land is one organism,” Aldo Leopold wrote, and by “the land” he meant “all of the things on, over, or in the earth.” In this same passage, he defined conservation as “a state of harmony between men and land.”

The three speakers at KLT's 2014 Lyceum, *Birds, Fish, and Butterflies: The Breeding and Foraging Habitats of Some Maine Migrants*, made clear just how intricate is the web of life that any animal inhabits. They also provided us with progress reports on how well we humans are harmonizing with birds, fish, and butterflies and with the ecological systems that support them, systems that in the case of migratory species can span continents.

Professor Herb Wilson traced the reproductive cycle of the monarch butterfly and its dependence on milkweed throughout that cycle. Threats to the species include the loss of milkweed because of agricultural use of herbicides, particularly in the Midwest, and the loss of overwintering habitat in Mexico.

In his talk on “The Ecological Recovery of the Kennebec Watershed,” Professor John Lichter pointed out that the impacts of overfishing, dam building, agricultural runoff, and industrial pollutants have taken a heavy toll on the once teeming aquatic life of the Kennebec and of Merrymeeting Bay. Dam removal and the introduction of wastewater treatment plants over the last several decades have improved the health of the watershed but still left it far short of its former richness.

Professor Rebecca Holberton's talk on “Birdlife in the Gulf of Maine: What Are the Challenges Facing Birds in Our Region?” stressed that the Gulf of Maine is not just part of a migratory corridor but also a crossroad and pocket that concentrates birds in the millions year-round. Subject to habitat loss from residential development, the Gulf is also a potential site for extensive offshore wind power development, raising once again a conflict between protecting high-value wildlife habitat and generating renewable energy.



**Thank you!** Our 2014 Lyceum was supported by Lincoln, Gloria, and Robert Ladd and co-sponsored by Colby College.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH OUR OUTREACH, EDUCATION, LANDS, LYCEUM, AND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS



FALL 2013 ~ SPRING 2014

#### MANY THANKS TO THESE FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT:

Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

Helen and George Ladd Charitable Corporation

High Valley Fund of the Maine Community  
Foundation

Maine Community Foundation

Norcross Wildlife Foundation

Oak Grove Foundation

Bruce Bell, Nat and Pam Bell, Keith Bisson, Jerry Bley, John Lichter, **Professor of Biology, Bowdoin College**; Zach Stewart, **Central Maine Technology**; Ginny Coady, Jim Connors, Barry Crowell, Jenn Curtis, Elizabeth Davidson, Jane Davis, Joel Davis, Bob and Sheridan Doyle, **Robert Doyle and Son Tree Service**; Stan Eller, **Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed**; Sarah Fuller, Ron Giard, Deb Fahy, **Harlow Gallery**; Helen Holman, Bea Horne, Jill Ippoliti, Jeff Janell, Ron Joseph, Ann Judd, Kevin Kane, **KLT Land Donors, Stewards, Office and Field Volunteers, Directors and Advisors**, Brian Kent, **Kent's Hill School**, Robert Kimber, Ken Laustsen, Lincoln and Gloria Ladd, Ed Lake, Howard Lake, Barbara and Mort Libby, Scott Longfellow, **Longfellow's Greenhouses**; Rich Conner and Dayna Zawoysky, **LPK Foundation**; Mary Griffith Lynch, Mark Loiselle, Jon Lund, **Maine Conservation Corps**, Lisa Kane, **Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**; Bob and Cheryl Marvinney, Janie Matrisciano, Steve McLaughlin, John and Molly Melrose, Tom and Donna Mickewich, Holly Miller, Lynette Miller, Robin Miller, Morton Moesswilde, Antoine Morin, **NRCM**, Jim Perkins, Betsy and Nate Poulin, Patrice Putman, Dave Rocque, Norm Rodrigue, Dianne and Allen Ryan, Nancy Sage, Deb and Syd Sewall, Sarah Shed, Andy Shultz, Karen and James Simpson, Nancy Smith, Ken and Sue Spalding, Rebecca Stanley, David Stevenson, Joan Sturmthal, Amy Trunnell, Rebecca Holberton, **Professor of Biology, University of Maine**; Ellen Gibson and Kate Tremblay, **Vaughan Homestead Foundation**; Clyde Walton, Jeff and Allison Wells, Warren Whitney, Herb Wilson, **Professor of Biology, Colby College**; Winthrop Middle School, Milt Wright



## Kennebec Land Trust

*Conservation Across Generations*

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Printed on post-consumer recycled fibers.

**THANK YOU** for your 2014 KLT membership donation - please share your newsletter with a friend, family member, or local business; we have included a new member envelope.



*Photographs: Jym St.Pierre*

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AUGUST 24, 2014 - PLEASE JOIN US!**

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and Music by the Gawler Family.