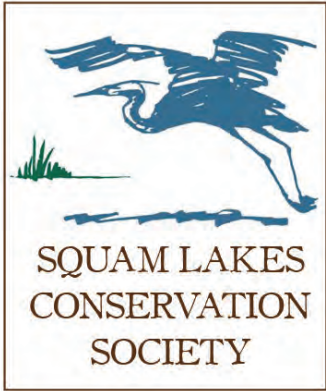


June 2022



SQUAM



A LOOK INSIDE

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022 AMERICORPS

STEWARDSHIP

DARK SKIES

FOREVER SQUAM

Beebe River

Sanford-Doyle Forest II

Thompson Preserve

Lamb Brook Farm

DID YOU HEAR?

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

SAVE THE DATE

Onward...

Every day, there's a new sunrise to remind us of our good fortune to live in such a peaceful and beautiful place. Summer is a season of stories. Stories of those who came before us and our own adventures. Stories that lead us to a deeper understanding of each other and our community. Some stories are short, some are epic. Some, like ours, never end.

But we have lots of chapters. The Squam Uplands project that began eight years ago closed this spring with 6,395 acres going into permanent protection on the north side of the Squam Range (see Beebe River on page 4).

As you will read in this newsletter, there is now a new chapter being written, and it's a blockbuster. The Forever Squam initiative is taking our land conservation efforts to new heights, literally and figuratively. By pooling resources and working together, we aim to protect another 60 properties in the watershed over the next couple of years, resulting in 40% of Squam's land in permanent protection. Along the way, we'll get lots more people, young and old, involved in the stewardship of Squam's natural resources.

Daunting, yes. Possible, absolutely...all because of the remarkable commitment of this community. The first few paragraphs have already been written, with over 160 families contributing financially to the Forever Squam campaign. Three Forever Squam projects have been completed, with several more in the pipeline.

Forever Squam is a story we are writing together. Here's to crafting a page-turner for the next and all the following generations. Onward!



AmeriCorps 2022 SLCS's AmeriCorps Team



Emerson Phares • Emily Carty

A big Squam welcome to Emily & Emerson (Em & Em), our 2022 AmeriCorps members. They will work on a variety of projects including managing SLCS preserves, monitoring conservation easements, removing invasive species, refreshing boundary marking, and creating baseline documentation reports. They will

be plenty busy working on the many Forever Squam projects.

Em & Em will gain experience in all levels of land conservation work in a community that places a premium on the protection of its natural resources. When you see them working hard for all of us in the community, please welcome them. We are very fortunate to have them on our team.

Emily Carty My name is Emily Carty and I am from the great city of Sweden, Maine. I recently graduated from Bates College with an anthropology major. Having grown up on the edge of the White Mountain National Forest, I have always been fond of the outdoors, and decided to join AmeriCorps after a summer internship at a local land trust. Some of my favorite hobbies include hiking, cross country skiing, skating, running, and playing basketball. Aside from those pursuits, I spend most of my time baking, finding dogs to pet, or listening to history podcasts!

Emerson Phares Hi all! My name is Emerson and I come from Dayton, Ohio. You can usually find me hiking, baking, kayaking, or hanging out in my hammock. I graduated this May from the University of Dayton with a BS in Environmental Biology. At UD, I was able to grow my interest in protecting ecosystems in a forestry research lab. I have been involved in a leadership and civic engagement group called River Stewards for the past three years where we focused on protecting and promoting the Great Miami River in the local community. I was also fortunate enough to study abroad in Australia and experience their beautiful landscapes with unique creatures. I'm excited about joining the Squam Lakes Conservation Society to kick off my career in conservation! I'm especially eager to meet like-minded people who are passionate about making a difference by protecting our natural resources.

Stewardship

Reflections on Squam by Pete Helm

I was thinking the other day about how so many of us are fortunate to have stories of time spent on and near Squam.

Some of us are long-time residents, some are worker bees, some are starting out on careers, and some of us are here only part-time. It's funny though, it doesn't really matter how long you have been here or how long you have stayed. You could be a weekender, a vacationer, a retirement get-a-way-er, or a year-rounder... all that matters is that you've seen the lakes and wildlife, or that you've touched or been touched by the water, or that you've hiked to a panoramic view or taken a quiet walk. I'm guessing that nearly everyone has at least one story about their "visit."

We chatted about this amongst folks in the office and thought it would be fun to launch "Reflections on Squam" as a type of digital logbook about your experiences around Squam. They can be stories about the one the got away, the epic hike, hitting the rocks at Diamond Ledge, things we did back in the day, or just a memorable time. No age limits: just building a record of the joys of your time in this place we all love.

SO.... if you are interested in sharing some of your history, memories, or last weekend's adventures, send them to stories@foreversquam.org. You can also send it snail mail to PO Box 696, Holderness, NH 03245. We may share your stories or snippets from time to time in our communications. We'd love your participation!

At the risk of totally embarrassing myself, which I seem to do quite regularly, here's a poem I wrote about some of my time here.

*I LOVE
The call of the loon
Picking blueberries on the shore
Jumping Rock
Unlit shorelines
Hiking to Doublehead Preserve
Skinny dipping
I love clear deep water
The fish that got away
NH maple syrup
Hot chocolate and popcorn
I love hearing children laugh
Sailing in a good stiff breeze
Playing cards late into the evening
Early morning paddles
And the magic of the Squam Range
I love the jumping flames of a wood fire
Tupelo trees in autumn
The booming of the ice
Rainbows after the storm
But most of all,
I love the peace of Squam, and appreciate the
Squam Lakes Conservation Society
For preserving what
I LOVE*

A Night with the Stars

Discover the Night

***Getting outside
to look up at the
wonders of the
heavens is never a
wasted opportunity.***

— Dan Reidy

Looking up at the night sky in the Squam Lakes Region is always a treat, compared to the light-polluted skies of urban areas. On the night of August 15, 2022 from 9:00-10:00 pm, the viewing will be even better during the "Night with the Stars" event.

Sponsored by three partner environmental organizations, the Squam Lakes Conservation Society, Squam Lakes Association, and the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, the goal is to celebrate the beauty and conservation of this region while being "in community." If the skies are clear enough for star and planet gazing, there will be several objects of interest to be on the lookout for.

Be sure to participate by turning out your lights at 9:00 pm on Monday, August 15th, 2022, and taking the time to view the wonders of the night sky with friends and family.

Like us on social media to stay updated on events for the evening and don't forget to post your own Night with the Stars story at #squamlakes.



conserve what you LOVE

Forever Update

Forever Squam is the vision for conserving what we love. The first phase was the launching of the campaign to support the initiative to conserve another 10% of the watershed. We are now within \$200,000 of reaching the goal of \$4,000,000 in new gifts because of the wonderful members listed here who have made their pledge. If you haven't already, please consider joining these investors in the future of Squam.

The three Forever Squam projects completed since May are excellent examples of how the initiative serves as an encouragement to conserve more land. For example, Forever Squam funds paid for a necessary land survey prior to accepting the donation of 10 acres from Jim Sanford in Holderness. They were used to cover the required stewardship funding prior to accepting the gift of 14 acres from John and Carol Thompson on College Road in Center Harbor. They were also used for the bargain sale purchase of a conservation easement protecting 18 acres abutting the Beij Preserve in Holderness. The benefit of having a pool of funds to transact conservation projects cannot be overstated.

Thanks to the Squam community for supporting this timely and important effort to protect more of Squam's natural resources.

We believe...

- *Land conservation is a significant part of Squam's history and character.*
- *We all benefit when people have equitable access to nature.*
- *Conservation land contributes to mitigating climate change.*
- *Nature has intrinsic value that helps us lead healthy, well-balanced lives.*
- *Only by working together can we accomplish our goals.*
- *Learning about the wonders of nature begins in childhood and lasts a lifetime.*
- *Each of us has a role to play to steward and conserve this place we love.*

Squam Uplands (Beebe River Tract)

The last, and largest, of the Squam Uplands projects was completed on April 8, 2022 when our partner The Conservation Fund and the NH Division of Forests and Lands announced the completion of a multi-year effort to protect 6,395 acres of forestland and aquatic resources. Uniquely situated between the White Mountain National Forest and the Squam Lakes, this area is noted for its wildlife habitat, well-managed forests, and its geographic connection between New England's largest block of public land and one of its most beloved lakes and watershed.

Forest Legacy, a federal program administered through the USDA Land and Water Conservation Fund, provided 75% of the purchase funds for the conservation easement, with the remaining 25% from Squam Uplands donors through SLCS. We are grateful to the many Squam donors who had the vision and commitment to invest in the protection of these neighboring lands. Once again, Squam stands out not only as a beautiful place, but also as an exemplary community. For more information visit our website www.foreversquam.org/featured-properties.



Forever Squam Donors

In Good Company...

Anonymous
Jon Adams & Pam Conover
Ken & Elizabeth Allen
Brent & Jamie Anderson
Colin & Melody Anderson
Jason & Holly Mason Antrim
Bill & Lisa Aulet
Sandra Baker & Geoff Stewart
Karl Bandtel & Farley Urmstrom
Serena Baum
Barbara Beal
Penelope Beal & Sheldon Pennoyer
Tom Beale & Laura Nash
Brendan & Helen Bechtel
Jane Beck
Laurie & Susan Beeson
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Martin Carmichael & Lisa Gruenberg
Leslie Christodouloupoulos
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Peter Gross & Diane Garfield
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Douglas & Lydia Hart
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Dean Hodge
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Todd & Jane Horn
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Bonnie Hunt & Bob Maloney
Chris & Devona Jackson
Roger & Tracy Jeanty
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Kathy & Rich Weymouth
Molly & Scott Whitcomb
Ian & Leah Whitehead
Bruce & Betsy Whitmore
Steve Wiggins & Melissa Kerr
Connie Williams & Sankey Hess
Brinton (Pete) & Kathy Woodward
Brian & Ann Young
Peter & Jo Ziesing
Sinclair Ziesing & Chris Schoenberg

Forever Update cont.

Sanford-Doyle Forest II (Holderness)

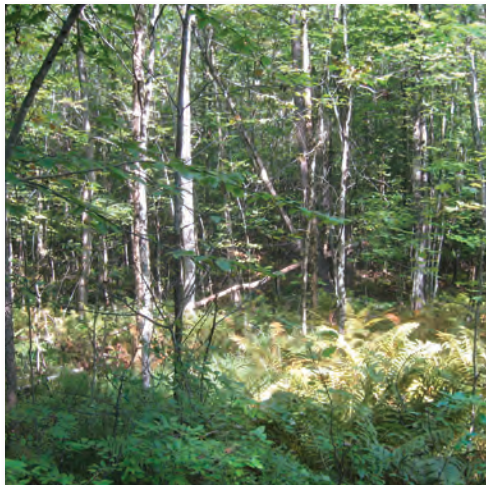
Jim Sanford has donated another conservation easement. It's also the first completed project of the Forever Squam initiative! This forested tract on Perkins Lane in Holderness drains into Little Squam Lake. It complements the adjoining 10.4-acre easement donated in 2014 by Jim and his wife Jean Doyle.

SLCS paid for the survey, recording costs, attorney fees, and stewardship funding from the pool of funds created by the Forever Squam campaign, making it easy for the landowner to permanently protect this key wildlife corridor between Little Squam Lake and White Oak Pond.

Immediately following the protection of this property, it was sold subject to the conservation easement to Scott and Carol Wymer (former staff member Ben Wymer's parents) who have made it available for housing for our AmeriCorps Members in the cozy little cabin outside the conservation area. Where else do stories like this get written? We are grateful to Jim Sanford for his dedication to land conservation and to the Wymer family for generously offering the cabin for AmeriCorps housing. This is a great example of the community spirit of Forever Squam.



Thompson Preserve (Center Harbor)



John and Carol Thompson graciously donated the fee title to 13.75 acres of forested land located on College Road in Center Harbor, now known as the Thompson Preserve. The Thompsons acquired the land in 1993, and in 2013, donated a conservation easement to us ensuring the forest would continue to flourish. In late May, the Thompsons decided to donate the full fee title to us. Historically, this land was cleared for agricultural purposes as indicated by more than 2,400' of stone walls. College Road is one of the first highways laid out in NH connecting Provincial Governor John Wentworth's home in Wolfeboro to Dartmouth College in Hanover.

This generous gift complements the nearby Chamberlain Reynolds and Damon I & II conserved areas across the road, providing a more enhanced corridor for wildlife and water quality protection. In addition to maintaining the mature forest, the property can also be used for outdoor educational purposes as the natural habitat of plants and wildlife have been undisturbed for decades.

Lamb Brook Farm (Holderness)

On May 20th, Brice Bennett contributed a bargain-sale conservation easement protecting 18.6 acres abutting the Eastman Brown and Beij Preserve conservation lands on East Holderness Road in Holderness. Lamb Brook Farm became the third completed Forever Squam project, and the first to tap funds specifically earmarked for bargain-sale purchases.

The land surrounding the farm buildings includes the Lamb Swamp Brook and related wetlands designated as Prime Wetland by the town of Holderness. This wetland drains into White Oak Pond and eventually into Big Squam Lake. Ensuring the protection of wetlands is one of the many focus areas of the Forever Squam initiative. We are grateful of Brice's commitment to conservation and our community, much in the spirit of local conservation giants Pierce and Kay Beij, who also permanently protected part of the Lamb Brook Swamp wetland system. To view maps of any of the above properties visit our website at www.foreversquam.org/forever-squam-campaign.



Did You Hear?

Ben Wymer has left the Building...



Ben started with us in 2020 as an AmeriCorps member just out of college. He brought a youthful enthusiasm to the team. His passion for wildlife biology and conservation was enjoyed by all through his amazing photography which he shared in Instagram posts and short wildlife videos. He has gone on to work as Stewardship Associate with Great Peninsula Conservancy in WA. Thank you Ben!

Science Pubs

We are teaming up with Squam Lakes Association and Squam Lakes Natural Science Center for SCIENCE PUB OUTDOORS this fall. The theme continues to be Local Effects of Climate Change. Save the dates: Tuesdays, Sept 6, Sept, 20 and Oct. 4. Food will be available from Monster Tacos food truck! Speakers to be announced. Sign up for our e-newsletter at www.foreversquam.org or like us on social media to stay up to date.

2022 Annual Meeting, Saturday, August 20th

It's been too long since we have been able to see your beautiful smiles in person! We have so much good news to share with you this year! We will be holding our Annual Meeting IN PERSON at the picturesque Willoughby Ridge Farm on Rte 113 in Holderness. Moulton Farm will be there at 9:30am with coffee and cider doughnuts. Our NextGen committee will have kids activities planned so you can bring the whole family.



Fall Lookout Cover Photo Contest

We are looking for our Fall newsletter cover photo. Send us your favorite Squam image and we may use it on our next Lookout! Send jpg entrees to denise@foreversquam.org. We may feature your photo on social media.

Scavenger Hunt

Get Out and Explore

Squam Lakes Conservation Society has been protecting lands in the Squam Lake watershed for present and future generations since 1960. We believe when children learn to appreciate and enjoy nature, they are more likely to grow into adults who value and protect our environment. To this end we have created an outdoor self-guided nature scavenger hunt on some of our properties that contain public access trails. These scavenger hunts are great for families with school-aged children and for those who are young at heart.

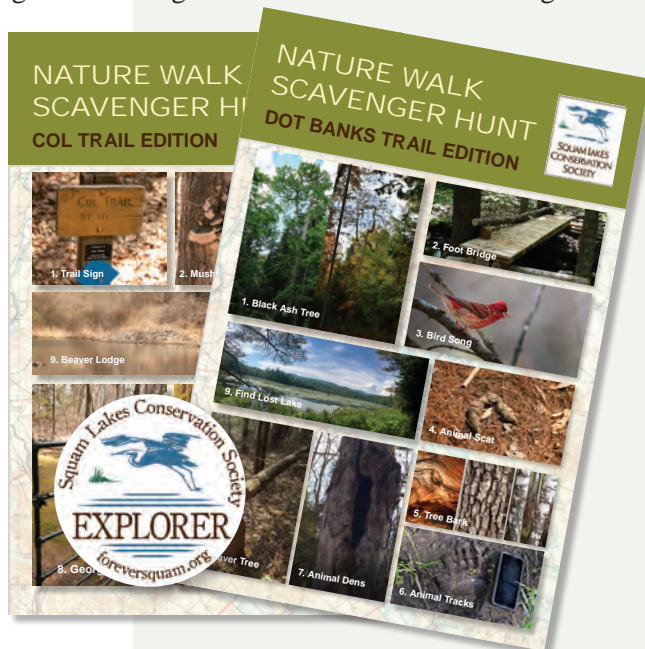
Prior to setting out, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Download or print scavenger hunt and corresponding trail map
- Wear proper footwear
- Bring bug spray and sunscreen
- We suggest long pants to deter ticks and mosquitos
- Take pictures, post to your favorite social media and tag us.

We hope you enjoy exploring nature as a family. Please invite friends or bring this activity to your scout meeting, classroom, or community gathering.

After you have completed your scavenger hunt, mail in the printed postcard using a regular stamp and we will send you a certificate of completion and an awesome sticker to proudly display!

If you have any questions on the scavenger hunt or something you saw while you were on the properties give us a call at (603) 968-7900 or email us at website @foreversquam.org



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President

Anne Lovett

Vice-President

Peter Gross

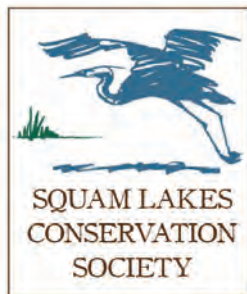
Vice President

David Martin

Treasurer

Patricia Ladd Carega

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foreversquam.org

603.968.7900

Squam Lakes Conservation Society

PO Box 696

Holderness, NH 03245

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Winthrop Brown

Ashley Bullard

Martin Carmichael

Nancy Coolidge

Leo Dwyer

Ken Evans

Susan Gutches

Chip Harris

Bonnie Hunt

Pamela Simonds

Georgie Smith



We have the gear. Stop by to get a special something for your favorite conservationist, including the little ones. Also consider annual gift memberships. Visit our website foreversquam.org for details or call 603-968-7900.



Honorary Directors

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Staff

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Save the Date

Visit our website for details. www.foreversquam.org

Sign up for our e-newsletter or follow us on social media to stay up to date

Passing It On

Thursday August 11, 2022 10:00am

Holderness Public Library

Night with the Stars

Monday August 15, 2022 9:00pm

Annual Meeting

Saturday August 20, 2022 10:00am

Willoughby Ridge Farm, Holderness

Squam Uplands Celebration

Saturday August 20, 2022 4:00pm

Beebe River Tract



The Society's mission is to preserve the unique quality and character of the Squam watershed by protecting lands for present and future generations.