

## Introducing KLT Conservation Coordinator Patti Beedles



The Kansas Land Trust is delighted to announce the addition of Conservation Coordinator, Patti Beedles, to the KLT team.

After graduating from the University of Kansas, Patti has worked in ecology and natural resource management in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

Patti completed a cherished internship with the Kansas Land Trust in 2012, working closely with Jerry Jost, and has supported and admired the mission and work of KLT for many years.

"When I learned of the opportunity to serve as Conservation Coordinator, I felt it was the perfect fit for my unique skill set and truly my dream job," Patti says. "I was six years old and only a few miles from <u>Elkins Prairie</u> when it was plowed in 1990. I'd like to think that somehow KLT has always been a foundational part of my land ethic."

Patti is a 5th generation Kansan and has always held a passion for the natural world and the people, plants and animals who have shaped the landscape we see today. Many of her fondest childhood experiences center around nature, from orienteering in National Parks to exploring in urban open spaces.

After accepting the Conservation Coordinator position, Patti says she stepped outside and let the warm November sun soak into her skin.

"Closing my eyes, I felt such deep gratitude for the eons of stewardship on the lands we call Kansas and a deep respect for all those who've contributed to the creation and continued strength of KLT," Patti says. "I feel a sincere responsibility to carry on that legacy. I'm honored to accept this role and am so motivated to learn, grow and collaborate."

As the full-time KLT Conservation Coordinator, Patti will work closely with the KLT Land Committee and Director to meet the responsibilities related to our conservation easements. This includes land conservation and stewardship, fostering healthy partner relationships, and working with the KLT Board, staff and interns to meet the vision and mission of the organization. Welcome aboard, Patti!

Help KLT Conserve Land in Kansas!

## Letter from the Director



Strolling through native prairie as fragrant wildflowers bloom.

Listening to migrating birds pass through peaceful woodlands.

Enjoying a brilliant Kansas sunset from a scenic outlook.

Dear Friend of KLT,

As someone who cares deeply about natural spaces in Kansas, you know that spending time outside often leads to well-being and moments of inspiration and curiosity.

Research confirms that spending time outdoors improves mental and physical health. Yet, Kansas is next-to-last for public lands when compared to other states in the nation. While the Kansas Land Trust protects more than 1,300 acres of land with public access, we have a long way to go.

During this giving season, KLT invites you to join us in improving the lives of Kansans and future generations.

To benefit the general public, it is vital that KLT continues to work with voluntary landowners to conserve more spaces across the state where future generations can learn, grow, and experience the long-term restorative benefits of nature.

To help us reach our end-of-year giving campaign goal of \$60,000, **generous donors** who support KLT's efforts to foster good health for Kansans through land protection have **pledged \$30,000 in matching funds**.

When you give to KLT in December, your gift goes twice as far thanks to these donors: Scott and Lynda Carlberg, Dean and Lesa Goodell, Bruce Hogle, Sandy Sanders, James Mason, Marilyn McCleary and family, Elizabeth Miller, Julie Sager Miller, Sara Niemann, and Valerie Wright.

Join These Donors in Protecting Special Places Today!

Click here for full letter from Kaitlin Stanley

## We've Moved!

The Kansas Land Trust has moved offices. Please direct all future KLT mail correspondence to: P.O. Box 508 Lawrence, KS 66044. Thank you!





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