



**What have we been up to??**

What a challenging year 2022 was! Just to highlight some of CLIC's accomplishments:

- We have gained 4 new Board members
- Our Half Moon Island Picnic was well attended despite a two-year break
- Save The Dam issues continued to simmer
- The visitor experience at Mud Lake Falls was significantly improved
- CLIC was revitalized by the active engagement of our members who attended our Annual Meeting

These and many other activities succeeded due to strong support from our board, membership, community volunteers, and partner organizations.

Yes, Covid restrictions and concerns really impacted almost all CLIC activities for the past two years but were able to move ahead and we are very much looking forward to embracing 2023.

**What waters are associated with CLIC?**

Great question! CLIC focusses upon the following waters:

- ~ North Lake ~ Monument Brook Stream ~ The Throughfare ~ East Grand Lake ~ Mud Lake ~ Spednic Lake ~ Palfrey Lake ~ Deering Lake ~ Bracket Lake



For more information on how to become a CLIC member or volunteer, or to get on our mailing list, contact CariAnn Michaud via

phone: 207-538-2489 or email: [cinnamon5517@gmail.com](mailto:cinnamon5517@gmail.com)

**Meet and Greet New Board Members**

With gratitude, CLIC's Board of Directors would like to recognize departing Board members, Bob McGinn, Mary McGinn, Pete Chase and Mike Saunders AND welcome our four new Board members who spontaneously offered to serve and were voted-in at our Annual Meeting last August:

Ann Barnes – In support of her nomination, Ann expressed her love for East Grand Lake and an interest in conservation issues. Ann has paralegal experience which the board will find useful.

Edwin Decker – Edwin resides locally from June to October, and he has extensive experience as a community volunteer. For example, he has served on the board of two Home-Owner Associations. We thank Edwin for also accepting the position of CLIC's Treasurer.

CariAnn Michaud – CariAnn was nominated by Pam Taylor at the meeting. Despite the shock and awe which struck her face, she gladly agreed to serve. Cari offered

communication and technical skills which she will now use to cast and communicate news to our members and to the public about upcoming CLIC events and other matters of local concern.

Frank Bolton - Frank clinched his candidacy when he informed us that he



has significant media experience and ties. And, as we learned much later, he also has many years of experience as the treasurer for other organizations. So, of course, he has been offered, and has accepted, the position of CLIC's Secretary. In the off season, Frank resides in New York.

A sincere thank you all departing and commencing board members !!

**Half Moon Island Picnic -Kathy Conley-**

CLIC hosted its annual picnic on July 23<sup>rd</sup> this year. Due to Covid restrictions related



to crossing the border, and social distancing concerns, CLIC had not held an island picnic since 2019.

That said, last summer, we had a great turnout with over 100

guests. Attendees included CLIC members and non-members. Our picnic has always

been open and welcoming to the local community. News about this picnic was spread using CLIC's spring mailout, our members, Facebook, good old-fashioned signage and by word of mouth.



As usual, CLIC served traditional red Maine hotdogs, freshly cooked French fries which are well known for their crispiness and delicious taste, and a good variety soft drinks and water for ample hydration.

This picnic is an event that you don't want to miss! Come and enjoy the food, friends, and the beautiful surroundings. So, mark the following on your calendars: This summer CLIC's Island Picnic will be held on July 8<sup>th</sup> from 11-1, Maine Time/ noon-2pm, New Brunswick Time.

A sincere 'thank you' is expressed to Kathy Conley and to the fabulous crew of workers (which consisted largely of her good-spirited family members), who made this event a success!

**Interested in local Fisheries Issues? Here** are pieces from the Fisheries Committee report filed by (then) committee chair, Pete Chase, at CLIC's Annual Meeting last August. Shortly after making his report, Pete commenced a well-earned break from service as a member on our Board of Directors.

Included within Pete's report was the following information: Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife significantly curtailed recent conservation activities due to restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic. Their current priority is improving the "smelt" population because the smelt is such an important food group for much of the fish





population. Bass were illegally introduced into our local waters, and they have been detrimental to the salmon because they compete for the smelts and small fish which salmon depend on for food. The priorities of CLIC's Fisheries Committee have been to increase the smelt population, enhance the waterways flowing into our lakes, clean the outlets of any beaver dam activity or other brush and debris which inhibits flowage and fish passage.

On another note, Sucker Brook was cleared and cleaned and now the flow of water is much improved. Salmon are not currently being stocked so they are not as plentiful, BUT the current population appears to be healthy. Trout are stocked locally each year – over 6,000 in recent years - but there are no reports of these trout being caught. Alewife fish are coming into the lakes, and it is believed that these fish are a poor food source for the salmon as they cannot digest the skin.

Thanks so much, Pete, for this end-of-year report and for your many years of service as a CLIC board member.

On another fisheries-related matter, CLIC reports that there have been discussions about getting the fish tanks and chillers project back into Maine elementary schools from Houlton to Danforth, and within the TD Bank in Houlton. For those who are not aware of CLIC's "Student Fish Tank Project," we can inform that fish tanks, with mini chillers attached, were stocked with fish eggs, and then delivered to the classrooms involved. The students participated by monitoring the hatching

and early growth of the fish. When the fish were ready, the students meticulously counted and recorded the number of "fry" before transporting them for release into East Grand Lake by the Orient/Fosterville border crossing. Often, Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife would arrive with a large tanker truck that contained water chambers of trout "yearlings" that the students carried in buckets to the lakeshore to release into the wild. For many years, the

release of the fish has been



followed by a picnic lunch for the students provided by CLIC and our volunteers.

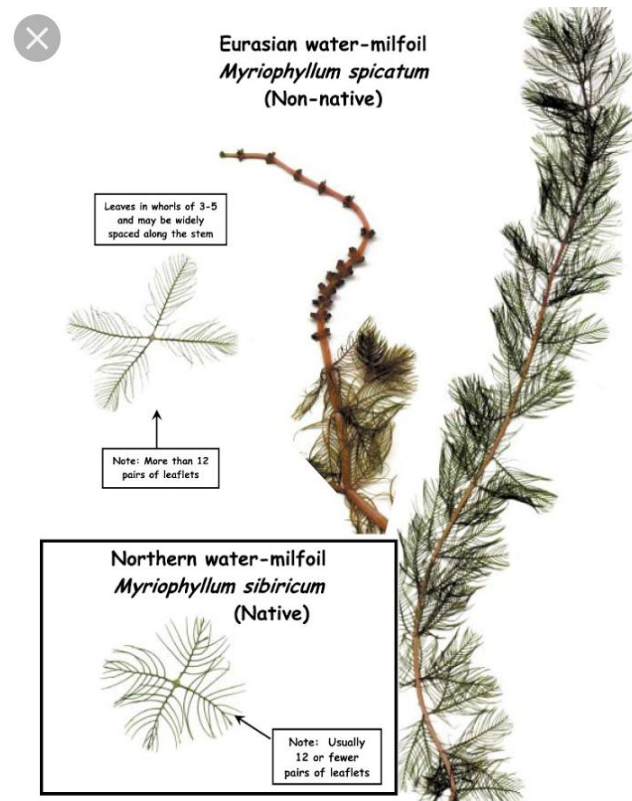
It is interesting to note that, even though bus travel to special events by elementary school children had been mostly phased out at local schools, teachers and school administrators continued to place sufficient importance on student participation in this particular conservation project to allocate school resources for the necessary travel and class time.

If you are interested in leading an effort to get the School Fish Tank Project up and running again, please contact CLIC and we will be pleased to discuss this matter with you.



**\*Side notes in keeping our lakes healthy\***

There are increasing concerns in our area regarding invasive milfoil and “Pfas.” Public awareness must be raised about such issues to keep our lakes flourishing. Actions such as treating our lawns and lake frontage with fertilizers, insecticides and



other harmful chemicals can be very detrimental to our lakes and rivers. Agricultural waste, chemicals in things such as cookware, raincoats, fire extinguishers, bags of microwave popcorn etc. can contaminate the lakes and the beautiful surroundings including but not limited to our much-desired fiddleheads! Please help us stop this sooner than later. Many hands make light work.

**Let's talk SAVE THE DAM**

Chair: President David Townsend-

Incredibly, it was over 7 years ago that



Woodland Pulp, LLC was issued a 30 yr. license by the US Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC, to operate the Forest City Dam. Unhappy with certain license conditions, which Woodland regarded as too burdensome and expensive, the company applied to FERC in 2016 to return that license and to decommission the Forest City Dam by permanently removing its 2 U.S. gates.

There are currently 3 separate dockets or proceedings before FERC related to the possible delicensing of this dam, and CLIC has been a full and active participant in all 3 proceedings. In October 2019, Gov. Janet Mills of Maine and Premier Blain



Higgs of New Brunswick submitted to FERC the outline of a proposal which they asserted would permit FERC to retire the license for the dam and yet permit an independent third party to own and operate it so as to continue to advance this dam's many public policy objectives



(such as fish passage, flood control and water level requirements), which are contained within the long-term license which Woodland Pulp applied to return. Even now, the details of the Mills/Higgs proposal are under development and, to add to challenges of creating a workable proposal, FERC has NOT fully acknowledged that the laws and policies created under the US Federal Power Act will permit the Commission to delicense the dam AND yet permit its gates to be actively operated so as to continue to achieve non-power, public policy objectives for the Chip Lake area. As the quest for a workable proposal evolves, CLIC will continue to press for delicensing solutions which will permit the gates to remain intact and operational to achieve many of its current public policy objectives.

Thank you to President Townsend for keeping tabs on all matters related to the future of this dam. It is important that we keep our waters safe and flourishing with an operational dam at Forest City.

**Water Quality and Testing –**

Chair: John Johnston-

For the past 4-5 years our committee has been evaluating water quality in East Grand Lake by using the Secchi Disc

**Secchi Disk**



method. This test is performed by dropping a weighted/colored disc that is attached to a measuring tape. The more distance that the disc can be seen down into the water, through our scopes, the clearer the water. Although this is a very simple test it is a very good indicator of lake health. I am pleased to say that currently our observations seem to indicate good water quality in East Grand Lake. We hope that in 2023 we will be able to expand our monitoring efforts. These additional tests may include the following: oxygen levels; phosphorous levels; training in identifying possible invasive plants; training in identifying early algae problems, and other tests are under discussion.

**More volunteers:** As we plan activities for this summer, we have only two active volunteers performing water tests. If we are going to expand testing, monitoring, and our expertise, my committee needs more volunteers. Experience in water testing is not necessary: training will be arranged.

If you have an interest in helping, please contact John Johnston via phone: 207-839-3454 or email: [jjohnston1@maine.rr.com](mailto:jjohnston1@maine.rr.com)

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for any of our committees or in becoming a CLIC member, please feel free to contact CariAnn Michaud at 207-538-2489.





## Upcoming Events 2023

CLIC is hoping to get the Fish tank project off the ground in 2023. Please help us make this happen for the kiddos!!

Half Moon Island picnic is an event you don't want to miss! Be sure to join us on July 8, 2023 from 11-1pm (ME.) and noon-2pm (N.B.) at the island.

CLIC's Annual Meeting will be held on August 19, 2023 from 9-10:30am (ME.) and 10-11:30 (N.B.) at First Settlers Lodge. Please mark your calendars. We would love to have a great turnout.

Keep your fingers crossed as we are hoping for the Grand Lake Regatta to return as a summer event, with the boat parade and a lunch directly after.

## Fun Facts about CLIC....

- 2022 was our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!
- CLIC owns and maintains the commercial binoculars, metal stand and guestbook at Million Dollar View
- We have agreements with Maine Fish and Wildlife and the Maine Department of Transportation to place and maintain the boating signage deployed each season in The Throughfare
- New board member, CariAnn Michaud imagined and created "The CLIC Quarterly"
- Kathy Conley has graciously accepted the V.P. position!

## CLIC Committees & Chairs - 2023

- + Bylaw review
  - Chair: David Townsend
- + Communications
  - Co-Chairs: Frank Bolton and CariAnn Michaud
    - Members → Ann Barnes
- + Water Quality and Testing
  - Chair: John Johnston
    - Members → Jeremy Michaud
- + Membership
  - Chair: USA- CariAnn Michaud – Chair Canada – David Townsend
- + Save the Dam
  - Chair: David Townsend
- + Fisheries
  - Chair: Ed Decker
    - Members → Pete Chase and Jeremy Michaud
- + Special Events
  - Chair: Kathy Conley
    - Members → Ann Barnes, Jeremy Michaud, CariAnn Michaud, Ed Decker, David Townsend
- + CLIC Equipment
  - Chair: Kathy Conley
    - Members → David Townsend, Ed Decker, Jeremy Michaud
- + Nominating Committee
  - CLIC's dually elected officers
- + Navigation Markers and Buoys
  - David Townsend – contact
- + Sunshine and Sympathy Club
  - Chair: Kathy Conley

### Executives of the Board

President – David Townsend  
Vice Pres – Kathy Conley  
Treasurer – Ed Decker  
Secretary – Frank Bolton

### Board Members

John Johnston  
Ann Barnes  
CariAnn Michaud