

# The CLIC Newsletter

Chiputneticook Lakes International Conservancy

Summer 2010

## Spring and Summer: 2009 vs. 2010

For those returning to the lakes in the early summer a year ago, it must have been a surprise to see them so high. Although there had been significant snowfall during the winter months, it had not been piled as high as the previous winter so there must not have been as much run-off from melting snow.

What the new arrivals may not have realized was the constant rain during late spring in 2009. Those who had arranged to have their camps opened might have found their docks floating and innumerable branches along the shoreline.

You can always count on the weather in the north country – for its unpredictability and for being very local. You might set out for town leaving rain behind only to discover dramatic clouds but no rain in town. Driving back on another day, you might encounter rain showers – sometimes downpours – on your trip but as you pull into your drive, the sun is out and your roof is bone dry.

Last summer was late in coming but when it did arrive, it brought overcast weather, rain and a few dramatic thunderstorms – along with more run-off. People who had pushed their docks further into the lake debated whether to pull them back up again. In Aroostock county, the farmers were worried about potato blight (two different kinds) and in Washington county, a number of blueberry fields were burned because of fungus.

The impact on lake dwellers – and their psyches – undoubtedly varied but the high lake caused the CLIC board to postpone the annual hot dog roast they host on the day of the first regatta to the Saturday of the second regatta. That regatta was rained out and the picnic was postponed for the second time. Though the lake was still high in early August, there was enough beach on Halfmoon Island to continue the tradition at noontime on the Saturday in August that the final regatta was held.

**This spring, by contrast,** was probably the most beautiful anyhow can remember, as reported to Bob Ellis by nonagenarian Paul McGillicuddy. It was warm enough so that the black flies were gone by early June and the lupins were already in bloom. Fishing was reported as being fairly good down in Greenland Cove and up by the thoroughfare after ice out.

Most members have heard there was sadness over the winter: Bartlett's Store in Orient caught fire and burned to the ground. Fortunately no one was hurt. This means, of course, that the Orient Post Office also was destroyed by the fire. There is no intention of rebuilding the post office — mail delivery units have been installed at the Orient Town Office.

At the CLIC Directors Meeting on the morning of May 15, Elbridge Cleaves of the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust spoke about the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust's plans to buy 12,000 acres of land east of Route 1 and between the Weston / Danforth town line and north to to the Orient town line from the Wagner Land Management Company. The purpose is to end shoreline development and placing a conservation easement on those lands so they are permanently protected as a working forest. The purchase would also provide rights to the public for outdoor recreation such

as fishing, hunting, trapping, hiking, snowmobiling and ATV use. CLIC is in support of this purchase.

CLIC's annual meeting is planned for July 17th. Members should have gotten a mailing around the first week of June. Reservations for the buffet dinner of ham, turkey and haddock are required by July 12th. Mail to Torrey Sylvester, 523 Drews Lake Road, New Limerick, ME 04730

Below you will find an abbreviated schedule of events around the lakes this summer. The legend is as follows:

NLCC = North Lake Community Center, Fosterville

HCC = Houlton Chamber of Commerce: 207-532-4216

WWLT = Woodie Wheaton Land Trust (Forest City)

contact: Patty BuBar: 207 448-3250

info@woodiewheaton.org

B/FCCC = Brookton / Forest City Community Center

Note: Seating for lectures at the WWLT is limited. To reserve a place on field trips and at workshops, please call or email Patty BuBar whose information is above.

Also, the border at Forest City, Maine and New Brunswick opens at 8 a.m. EDST / 9 a.m. AT and closes at 4 p.m. U.S. / 5 p.m. Canadian time. If you are coming from or returning to Canada, access other than between those hours must be via Orient/Fosterville or Vanceboro/St. Croix.



Greenland Island in Danforth, now owned by WWLT (photo: Paul First)

June 20 thru August 13th - Weekly Conservation Camps for youngsters at Greenland Point Center, Princeton...visit [www.greenlandpoint.com](http://www.greenlandpoint.com). See page three of this newsletter about scholarships available through CLIC.

Every Thursday evening through August 19 - McGill's Community Band concert - Monument Park, Houlton 7:00 p.m.

July 1 - Canada Day

July 1 to 4 - Houlton Fair - Fairgrounds, Houlton - Gates open at 8:00 a.m. & midway at 11:00 a.m. [www.houltonfair.co](http://www.houltonfair.co). Saturday is the Arts and Crafts Fair in Monument Park (or Gentle Building, if raining) Contact HHC for info

July 2 or 3 - McCain Fireworks in Fosterville (this is a maybe)

July 3 - Houlton Arts & Craft Fair - Monument Park 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. or at the Gentle Memorial Building. For information, call HCC.

Midnight Madness Retail Sales Event in Houlton - Sales 'til Midnight Info: HCC

Flea Market at the NLCC - Late morning to mid afternoon

Andrew Rossignol Memorial Fund spring fishing trip at East Grand to benefit Angel Flight Northeast. Contact Roger Rossignol (home: 207-646-0814 or cell: 207-337-0995) & 292 - 296 Sandy Beach Rd., Danforth, ME (207-448-2656) [www.angelflightne.org](http://www.angelflightne.org) Donation: \$20.00 per person.

McGill's Community Band free concert at Houlton's Monument Park at 7:00 p.m. unless rains. Bring lawn chairs.

July 4th - Houlton Parade 1:00 p.m. and fireworks start at 9:15 p.m. Boat/Light Parade on Deering Lake (maybe) - Assemble at the rope swing at 8:30 PM. Prizes for the best lit and most original watercraft. Contact Kristen at 448-7262 or 448-2015.

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## Water Clarity

CLIC has a number of volunteers who serve as water monitors, checking the water quality by using a Secchi disk. According to the training manual, the device is “used globally to assess lake water quality. It is a quick procedure that can be performed by virtually anyone with minimal training and inexpensive equipment.” The volunteers test a number of the Chiputneticook lakes for “lake transparency” which might better be described as water clarity, or the distance one can see down in the water column.

Elizabeth Roberts, a CLIC member who died over the winter, was the first person to do water monitoring for the CLIC board. When she discontinued doing it, CLIC formed the water clarity committee which Roland Tilton was involved with. Heather Walton took over Secchi testing coordination.

In 2007, Heather reached out to CLIC members, sending out letters to people asking if they had time to test water in five lakes – North Lake (which was being tested but the testing is not associated with CLIC), Deering / Mud / Bracket, East Grand, and Spednic.

Volunteers participate in a one day training session starting with book learning. Later they get into a boat and go to one of the stations (which are pre-determined spots: 6 on East Grand, 6 on Spednic with 1 on Mudd lake). Some sites are determined by their depth; others might be crucial spots, like Blueberry Point where the lake narrows and there is a lot of water going through it.

They measure with a long tape measure attached to a periscope-like apparatus which has a circular disk attached at the bottom. The disk has four triangles, two black and two white, on it. It eventually disappears in the water and when the volunteer sees it reappear even dimly, he or she makes a note of how many meters down it is. The records of these readings have been made year after year and from these records, it can be determined if the water has the usual clarity, if it is getting cloudy, if there is a lot of non-organic fertilizer or a septic system leeching phosphates which algae would feed on.

Before undergoing training, the volunteers are asked to commit to testing the water for more than just a year or two. The volunteers who are doing this work now have been doing it for 4 summers – twice a month from May to Sept. The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (MVLMP) realizes that from time to time, a reading will be skipped, like the heavy rains in June 2009. They try to do all of the lakes in Maine, divided by county. If someone is interested in their pond, they will add them as volunteers. MVLMP also arranges for tests for “dissolved oxygen levels” which is done on the Chiputneticook Lakes by someone from the St. Croix Waterway.

For information about CLIC, contact the membership secretary:  
Bill Walton: 207•448•7758, cell 732•757•8324 for quick response or clictreasurer@aol.com

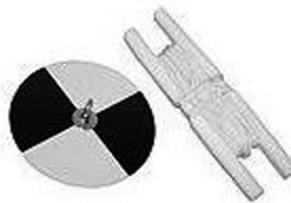
For submission to *From the Past* (reminiscences about the lakes), contact:  
Bob Foster at: FAX 902•457•5330 or fosterbo@nbnet.nb.ca

For information about or submissions to this newsletter, contact:  
Frank Bolton at 718•788•2282 or fxbolton@verizon.net

The area has lost the volunteers on Deering Lake and while there were two prospective volunteers for East Grand, the training was in Auburn this spring. MVLMP is always looking for volunteers, Anyone interested can contact Heather Walton. Each person who is trained is assigned a station. Everyone gets just one station or perhaps two, if the volunteer is interested. When springtime rolls around, the MVLMP gets together their records of volunteers from the preceding year and makes up a packet with the volunteer’s name and contact info along with a triplicate sheet showing boxes for average minimum and maximum transparency. The volunteer will record minimum and maximum clarity in the boxes on the sheet, which they take with them when they go to their sites.

The sites on Grand lake are by Blueberry Point, near Birch Point, Greenland Cove, Manley Island, Perch Rock, & Five Islands.

### Pietro Angelo Secchi (1818-1878)



An Italian priest and an astronomer, he did important work regarding the sun’s corona, drew an exact map of the Copernicus crater on the moon, discovered three comets, drew the first color map of the surface of Mars and was the first to refer to the

‘canali’ on Mars’ surface. He also did important work in oceanography, meteorology and physics, including setting up the systematic monitoring of the earth’s magnetic field and supervising an exact survey of the Via Appia in Rome which was later used for the topographic mapping of all of Italy. There are craters on both the moon and Mars which are named after him.

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July 10 - Field Day at B/FCCC - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Games, kids games, dunk tank, horseshoe tourney, bake sale, ice cream shop, food: hot dogs, hamburgers, fried dough, slush puppies, etc.

July 12 - Deadline for reservations with payment (\$12.00 per dinner) for CLIC’s Annual Meeting on July 17th. Contact: Torrey Sylvester at 207-532-9361 if you want to attend but haven’t made reservations. More details were snail-mailed and e-transmitted previously.

July 17 - breakfast 8 a.m.-10a.m. EDST (7-9 AT) NLCC (Cemetery Association). By donations

First Peter’s Cove Yacht Club Sailboat Race - 1:00 Northern East Grand Lake - Sailboat Registration –12:00pm (EDT), Skipper’s meeting –12:15pm, “Hit the Water”–12:30pm.

Race starts –1:00pm NOTE: Halfmoon Island is a Maine Island...arrivals from Canada should observe US and Cdn customs protocols.

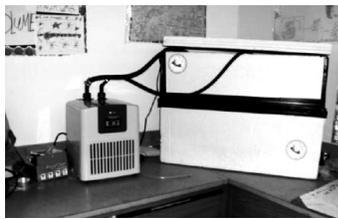
CLIC Annual Meeting at the East Grand Grange, US Route 1, Weston. Gather: 4:00 p.m. EDST; Business Meeting / Elections: 5:00; Buffet Supper: 6:00. Chris Drew, former Baxter State Park Ranger, will speak after supper.

July 24 - Lecture” Earthquakes, volcanoes, and moving continents: the geologic history of eastern Maine. Allan Ludman. WWLT 7:30 p.m.

July 24 & 25 - Grand Lake Stream Folk Art Festival 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Information: www.glsfaf.org

July 25 - Downeast Lake Land Trust Annual Meeting: noon to 2:00 p.m. - Register by July 16: Laura Hunt: downeastlakes@earthlink.net

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Photos: Don Ellis



On May 14, 99 students and teachers from the first and sixth grades of the Hodgdon Mill Pond School came to East Grand Lake to release salmon fry that they had raised in fish tanks CLIC supplied to the school. In February, a biologist from the Grand Lake Stream Fish Hatchery had come to the school with eggs; he explained the growth process to the students.

This year the CLIC committee co-ordinated the fry release with the Stocked Salmon Release. The students helped release 6,000 salmon into the lake.

The week of May 17, 52 students and teachers from third and sixth grades in Houlton came to the lake to release their fry. Both groups of students were given a tour of the Homeland Security Port of Entry by Inspector David Sylvain and enjoyed hot dogs, soda, chips and cookies prepared by Jerry Wilson and Bob Lyons.

A total of 1,625 fry were released into the lake this year. CLIC has seven fish tanks in local schools and over 20,000 small salmon have been put into the lake over the past 13 years.

## Scholarships

CLIC offers scholarships for two youngsters between the ages 8 and 14 to attend a five-day (Sunday thru Friday afternoon) overnight camp sessions at the Greenland Point Center Conservation Camp (GPCCC), an environmental education and outdoor recreation center in Princeton, Maine. Greenland Point Center is situated on a 64 acre peninsula which extends into Long Lake and is covered with a mature forest rich with wildlife. The camp periods are designed to help students become good stewards of the environment while learning skills to help them venture safely into the Maine woods.

Twelve log or wood-framed cabins blend into the forest and provide warm accommodations for sleeping or other activities. Each cabin is comfortably furnished with bunk beds, single beds, a table, chairs and a bureau. All cabins have electricity and some are handicapped accessible. The main lodge, also handicapped accessible, is a traditional Maine Sporting Camp style building. It houses the dining hall, which seats 80, and features a fireplace. The kitchen facility is large and well equipped. Downstairs there is a multi-purpose class/events room and library with fireplace. There are three shower/bathroom facilities, one located in the main lodge and the others near the cabin circle. All have electricity and hot and cold running water. Meals are prepared in the lodge kitchen by staff cooks and served in the dining hall.

The program is designed to help middle grade students to safely enjoy themselves while venturing into the Maine woods. Included in the program are the following activities: Canoeing and Water Safety, Swimming, Fly Casting, Rifle Instruction and Safe Gun Handling, Animal and Fish Identification, Sailing and Safe Boat Handling, Archery, Wildlife Management, Sportsman Ethics, Woods Survival, Tracking Wildlife, Trapping, Tree Identification, Forest and Water Conservation, Map and Compass Reading.

All activities are lead by GPC staff who are certified as Hunter Safety Instructors, ARC First Responder, ARC Lifeguards, and

IF&W Rifle Range Safety Officers. The following organizations provide guest lecturers to enrich the conservation program curriculum: Penobscot Fly Fishers - Fishing Instructors, IF&W - Safety Coordinators, Wardens and Biologist, Trappers Association - Licensed Trapper, Registered Foresters, Grand Lake Stream Guides Association, Princeton Rod & Gun Club and the Penobscot County Conservation Association.

Conservation Camp sessions are offered throughout the summer months.

To qualify for a scholarship, a youngster must meet ONE of these criteria: 1) he or she must be a relative of a CLIC member, OR 2) have a CLIC sponsored fish tank in his or her class-room (East Grand, Hodgdon, Houlton & Houlton Christian Academy), OR 3) spend part of the year in the St. Croix Watershed area (Houlton to Calais). Finally, each applicant is asked to write a short letter to CLIC telling why he or she wants to go to conservation camp.

Starting in 2010, tuition to each camp session is \$500.00 per camper and CLIC will pay \$300.00 of it, so each scholarship recipient's family, after being awarded a scholarship, must pay the remaining \$200.00 as a registration fee.

Applications will be accepted within these guidelines and although there is no deadline, applications should be submitted as soon as possible. To submit an application or for more information, contact Ann Barnes at 207-532-3556 or 207-448-7094 or e-mail questions to [pegone@mfx.net](mailto:pegone@mfx.net)

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or 207-796-2100. Gather at the east side of the dam in Grand Lakes Stream. Free cookout, benefit auction and DLLT news.

**July 30 & 31-** Make Your Own Adirondack Pack Basket workshop. WWLT. Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Saturday 9 a.m. until done. Master craftsman Bill Mackowski will teach the art of pack basket construction. *Limited to 4 students.* Cost: \$300.00. Sign up early. Bring your lunch.

**July 30 thru August 7** - Northern Maine State Fair - Presque Isle [www.northernmainefairgrounds.com](http://www.northernmainefairgrounds.com)

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**Did you know that . . .**

**CLIC has publicity brochures describing its purpose and its work?**

We still have a few left, if you know of businesses that would be interested in displaying them.

**If you Google East Grand Lake, it returns 9, 210,000 references.**

The earliest entries are the Chiputneticook lakes, followed by school districts in the Rockies.

**That the wikipedia entry for the Chiputneticook Lakes has an external link to CLIC?**

It is described as “an advocacy organization focused on these lakes.”

**CLIC Board of Directors**

*The year directors go off the Board is in parentheses after their names.*

*The elected officers serve as your Executive Committee for decisions between scheduled Board of Director meetings.*

**Officers:**

Mike Saunders, President  
 Mike McBride, Vice-President  
 John Furrow, Secretary  
 Bill Walton, Treasurer

**Directors:**

Mike Saunders (2010)	Ann Barnes (2011)	Don Ellis (2012)
Torrey Sylvester (2010)	John Furrow (2011)	Bob Ellis (2012)
Rollie Tilton (2010)	Mike McBride (2011)	Bill Walton (2012)



CLIC  
 28 Snowberry Lane  
 Orient, ME 04471-4320

TEMP - Return Service Requested

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July 30, 31 & Aug 1 - Summerfest: Danforth: 150th Anniversary celebration. Main street, downtown Danforth.

July 31 - Breakfast – 8-10 am Atlantic (7-9 Eastern) NLCC in Foster-ville (Cemetery Association). By donation.

CLIC’s Annual Island Picnic - FREE - Open to ALL - Noon, Half-moon Island in northern EGL. observe US and Cdn customs protocols.

Second Peter’s Cove Yacht Club Sailboat Race - see July 17 for details except Skipper’s meeting is 12:15 p.m.

July 31 thru August 7 - Old Home Week, Woodstock Fairgrounds

August 1 - Eastern Maine Electric CoOp meeting in Calais ME - Registration 11:30 - Meeting 2:00 - Location TBA. Entertainment, Meeting, Prizes

August 2 thru August 8 - Patten Pioneer Days - Info: 207-757-8575.

August 7 - Lecture: Bronze Sculpture and The Art of Lost Wax, sculptor Dave Hentosh. WWLT 7:30 p.m. Call for reservations.

August 10 - 14 - Annual Perseid Meteor Shower  
August 14 - North Lake Field Day, Parade & Field Activities, Supper & Dance NLCC. Supper is 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. AT)

August 13 to Aug. 15 - The Annual “County Open” Golf Tournament & Gala Dinner www.countyopen.com

August 14 - Ham Dinner at the B/FCCC 4:30 p.m.

Final Peter’s Cove Yacht Club Sailboat Race - Northern East Grand Lake 1:00 p.m. See July 31 for details

August 20th thru Aug. 22nd - Houlton’s Potato Feast Days. Saturday the 21st: Craft Fair: Houlton’s Monument Park 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

August 21st - Field Trip / Lecture: The Booming Ground and Mud Lake Falls. A field trip with Andy Cutko, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Call to reserve one of 15 spots. Hiking is involved; participants should be physically fit. Bring a lunch. 7:30 p.m. Final WWLT Lecture - The Booming Ground and Unique Habitats in the Chipneticook Lakes area.

August 24 & 25 -Town of Orient Elections & Town Meeting 6:00 p.m.

August 28 - Aroostook Riders ATV Club ride from Bartletts to Peekaboo Mt. 9:00 a.m.

September 4 - Breakfast NLCC (Canterbury High Class of 2011) 7-9 a.m. AT. By donation.

September 6 - Labor Day - USA and Canada - Orient Border hours degrade to 7 a.m. thru 5 p.m. daily until May 2011. Fosterville, NB remains open until midnight AT (that’s 11:00 PM ET). Travellers can get out but can’t get back into the US unless they have RPEP Credentials.

September 18 - CLIC Reorganization Meeting: time and place TBA.