



Chocorua Lake Conservancy

Spring/Summer 2017

Conserving the Basin since 1968



Rainbow over Chocorua Lake and Mount Chocorua. Photo by Kristy Mathews.

Washington Hill Gift Is a Family Legacy

In December 2016, the John Moir, Jr., family, of Washington Hill Road, Chocorua, and Stuart, Florida, presented a wonderful holiday gift to the Chocorua community and to the Chocorua Lake Conservancy.

By their gift, the Moirs created a perpetual Conservation Easement (CE) on 92 acres of previously unprotected land on Washington Hill Road. The new CE abuts the CLC's Brown Lot, and is a significant addition to the network of nearly 3,800 acres already conserved or owned by the CLC for the protection of the water quality and scenic values of the Chocorua Lake Basin.

This extensive network of protected lands provides important connectivity for wildlife migration, a factor which has become increasingly important in an era of climate change. The CE creates a forested buffer along the western side of scenic Washington Hill Road and on the portion of the property visible from Chocorua Lake, protecting those scenic areas forever, while allowing active forest management by the Moir family. The CE prohibits new structures on the remainder of the parcel, except those used for forestry and other permitted activities, such as maple sugaring.

The Moir family has summered on Washington Hill Road since 1929, when the former Oliver property was purchased by John Moir, Jr.'s aunt, Edith R. Moir. John and Heather Moir's children, Jim, Alan, and Alex,

Family Legacy, continued on page 3



Wolf Pine tree on Moir family easement; see Wildlife Notes, p. 5. Photo by Lynne Flaccus

NRCS Grant and CLC Volunteers Provide Habitat for Birds

This winter volunteers set up four wood duck boxes on three CLC properties. The nest boxes were built by Tamworth resident, Thad Berrier, and are part of our grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to support habitat work. The duck boxes are hung at Moose Meadows, the Bowditch Reserve and Woodhouse Reserves (at the north end of the lake). This spring another eight bluebird boxes are up on the Chamberlin Browne Forest on Washington Hill Rd. and Moose Meadows. We are excited to provide these homes and are looking forward to seeing who moves in over the course of the spring and summer. Wood ducks and hooded mergansers both nest in cavities near open water, and the smaller bluebird boxes will provide homes for bluebirds, swallows, chickadees, and perhaps even a great crested flycatcher!

Last year, CLC received funding from NRCS for a variety of habitat and forest projects recommended in our land-management plans over the course of the next three years. In 2017 we'll be finishing up the nest box project, mulching and seeding in both The Grove and the Island, and having work done on the Clark Preserve. A timber harvest on the Clark property at the end of the summer and fall will focus on wildlife habitat and timber stand improvement. The work will be followed by grading and seeding of the roads and trails, creating wildlife food sources and strengthening the routes for continued recreation, forest and wildlife work. Keep an eye on Facebook and the CLC website for news on when that work will begin and plan a trip to see the progress!



Thad Berrier installs a wood duck box which he handcrafted, in Moose Meadows this past winter.
Photo by Lynne Flaccus.



The work being conducted by CLC with help from NRCS is important to maintaining habitat diversity and demonstrating good stewardship practices on its fee-owned lands. By demonstrating some of these practices, we hope community members will learn about what is possible for their own lands and become active stewards themselves.

If you are interested in hearing more, or would like to be involved, please be in touch. We would love to have volunteers “adopt “ birdhouses to keep an eye on them and make sure they will last for many nesting seasons to come!

Thad Berrier and Dwight Baldwin install a nest box at Chamberlin Browne this spring.
Photo by Lynne Flaccus.

If you are interested in learning more about NRCS here is a link to the NH's NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) that provides cost share to landowners for land stewardship:

Family Legacy, continued

grew up exploring and enjoying the Washington Hill woods.

Now John, his son Jim and wife Kim, and Jim and Kim's son Colton spend a part of each summer on the property, enjoying the cool New Hampshire woods and the company of their Washington Hill neighbors and friends, knowing that a large portion of their land is protected forever.

The CLC is very appreciative to the Moir family for protecting this important parcel of land.

Deep Connections and History Inspired Moir Family Gift

Editors' Note: There are families for which Chocorua, its lake and its mountain, is a beloved place. Inspired by multiple generations of connection to the region, they have generously contributed property or conservation easements for the benefit of all. Thanks to these families, the Chocorua Lake Basin is almost completely preserved (likely the only such watershed in the state) and public access to trails and the lake are ensured forever. Jim Moir shares the history of his family's connection to Chocorua, which inspired the Moir family to contribute a 92-acre conservation easement. (See cover story.)

On a fine day in 1929 my great aunt Edith R. Moir, of Newton Massachusetts, went on an outing with some friends to buy some furniture. She wound up at the Estate Auction of Miss Oliver, on Washington Hill Rd. in Chocorua, New Hampshire, and bought a house. Aunt Edith died in 1936. She left the house and property on Washington Hill to her brother John A. Moir with the understanding that her nephew John A. Moir Jr. would be able to enjoy the country cottage.

The John A. Moir family enjoyed the house during the warm months and used it as a ski lodge through the 40s and 50s. John A. Moir bought several parcels of land contiguous to the original Oliver parcel, and in 1964 conveyed the property to my father, John A. Moir Jr. Many of my relatives; brothers and their families, aunts, uncles, and lots of cousins have enjoyed the house on the hill.

In the mid 1980's my father and my mother Heather C. Moir reverse migrated from Miami to Chocorua and made it their hometown. When a home has been inhabited by a family for 88 years, some changes and modifications can be expected. Our house has been added onto and winterized, and additional outbuildings have been constructed. One hopes that the legacy of family ownership is one of continuity and familiarity.

Our family has great affection for, and deep connection to Chocorua, our neighbors and the community; and the environment is very important to us. As time passes and things change inevitably, it is our hope that we can convey a sense of stability and visual familiarity to the community by conserving roadside properties, and protecting the viewsheds and watersheds. In 2011, 33 acres of Washington Hill were placed in Conservation Easement by my mother's (Heather Moir) estate.

Now, the Moirs are delighted to convey 92 acres of our property to the Chocorua Lake Conservancy so that the top of Washington Hill can be added to and connected with the other properties that have been set aside for conservation to protect the watershed and viewshed of Chocorua Lake.

Jim Moir

Stuart, Florida



Larry Nickerson, Builder and Conservator

Betsy McNamara

Craftsman and former CLA Board member Larry Nickerson is well-known to most Chocorua “regulars.” Many iconic homes and structures in the community have been built, improved, or maintained by Larry or an earlier generation of the Nickerson family. The Chocorua River Dam, the Narrows Bridge and information kiosks are just a few public projects Larry has contributed to or led in recent years. CLC consultant Betsy McNamara shares this interview.

Tell me about your family’s roots in Chocorua.

My family has been here for a while. Mount Whittier is one of the Nickerson Mountains and Nickerson Ledge is on Mount Chocorua. Alonzo Nickerson started the Chocorua Community Church. One of C. P. Bowditch’s efforts to conserve the area was to buy Alonzo’s mill on the Chocorua River to control the level of the lake.

What are some of your memories of growing up in Chocorua?

My sisters and I grew up at “Red Gables”, the red farmhouse on Route 16 right across from the lake. My parents, Bun and Helen Nickerson, ran the place as an inn. We weren’t there long but it was a great place to grow up. We had a bull that would sometimes get out onto Route 16. My mother would go and get my father wherever he was working, he would come and get the bull out of the road and back in the pen, and not a single vehicle would have gone by. My parents were very intent on teaching us how to swim. Every summer day we would go across the road and go swimming with mom. Once we could swim around the lake following dad’s row boat they let us swim on our own. When we moved to the village we’d ride the tailgate of dad’s truck to go swimming. It was like Mayberry RFD.

Tell me about the work you’ve done and currently do on CLC conservation lands?

I’m the third generation of my family to work on houses around the lake. If something needs to be taken care of I try to do it or find someone who can. I’ve been a member of the board of the Chocorua Lake Association [CLC’s predecessor organization] several times because I think the preservation work they do is important for all of us, not just those with homes on the lake.

What motivates you to do that work?

There is something magical about Chocorua Lake, Mount Chocorua and the Grove. I remember going to the bridge during a big rainstorm and watching two loons start about 20 yards north of the bridge, dive under water, shoot down the rapidly flowing water under the bridge, pop up and fly back up to their starting point. They looked like they were flying underwater. Over and over again, playing.

Why do you feel the work of the CLC is important?

C. P. Bowditch bought Alonzo’s mill at the north end of the lake to control the water level. Then he built the dams at the foot of the lake and in the village. He brought the water level up to make the lake bigger and deeper meaning there was more water in the village as well. Ellen Moot told me that when they bought their property she dove into the lake and saw old fence posts under the water, so that part of the lake had once been a field. C. P. Bowditch and others saw the beauty here and had the vision to preserve it. The generations that followed have done the same. There are no motorboats, so the lake is quiet. A buffer of trees is between the houses and the lake, so the shoreline doesn’t have big houses on it. Being on the lake is like going back in time. Dad and I worked on some of the older houses & he built some of the newer ones. What we saw in the late ‘50s and early ‘60s was the end of the summer houses of the Edwardian era. The current generations of those families work incredibly hard to continue the preservation work their ancestors started.

Tell me about the wooden railings on the Narrows Bridge.

I remember my father rebuilding them, as others had over the years. When we were installing the new railings a few years ago, everyone who stopped had a story about working on them. Sam Newsom built the previous set of crossed railings. When it was time to replace those, the CLA’s bridge committee looked at a very old photo of the bridge that Anita Kunhardt had shared with us. We decided to replicate the design which used trees and branches as railings and fretwork. Ned Eldredge, Jack Terwilliger and I built them in Steve Weld’s yard and then installed them. It came out nicely and gives the bridge its historic look.



Larry Nickerson hefts one of the new railings he crafted for the Narrows Bridge, along with Ned Eldredge and Jack Terwilliger, April 2013. Photo by Mary Beth Bliss.



Winter mist tumbling across Lake Chocorua, silhouetting the rustic railing of the Narrows Bridge.
Photo by Larry Nickerson.

Wildlife Notes

Do you have any “wolf pines” on your land?

A wolf pine is a large multi-trunked pine with spreading branches. You can often find them along old stone walls in the woods, or around the edges of fields.* They look pretty gnarly and aren't usually considered “valuable” from a timber perspective. But from a wildlife perspective though they can be a bonanza! The many branches provide for nest sites, rotten patches that woodpeckers can use for nesting or foraging for insects, cavities for squirrels and owls, and a bounty of seeds.

Trees that grow close together in the forest tend to grow tall and straight as they race for the sunlight in the canopy competing for space and light. When trees grow in the open the branches spread and reach in all directions to take advantage of the open sun. When some young pines grow in the open they are targeted by pine weevils that can kill the terminal twig, leaving the other twigs in the whorl to race for the “lead.” The result is many branches that grow to turn to trunks and take up more space in the forest.

Finding a wolf pine or wolf tree is a clue to past history of the land. And what does the “wolf” part refer to? A “lone wolf,” or in this case a “lone tree,” standing by itself in the forest!

**You can also find one on the cover of this newsletter.*

Remember, please send your Wildlife Notes to:

hhofheinz@chocorualakeconservancy.org

Upcoming Events

- **Sun. July 2nd @ 9am – 10:30am:** “Adopt a Highway” Route 16 trash pickup (meet in Grove at 8:45am).
- **Sun. July 2nd @ 12pm – 2pm:** Members Cookout at TBD (house guests welcome).
- **Sat. Aug. 12th @ 12pm – 2pm:** Members Cookout in the Wheeler field (house guests welcome).
- **Sat. Aug. 26th @ 3pm – 6pm:** Annual Members Meeting (3-5pm) at Runnels Hall (Chocorua Village), followed by wine and cheese (5-6pm). **[NOTE: Aug. 19 date in printed newsletter is incorrect.]**
- **Sat. Sept. 2nd – Monday, September 4th:** Labor Day Weekend Tennis Tournaments (details to come)
- **Sat. Sept. 2nd @ 5:30pm – 9pm:** CLC Labor Day Weekend Porch Party (location TBD). All CLC members and recent donors are invited to attend. Kids of all ages and house guests are welcome.
- **Sun. Sept. 3rd @ 6pm:** Annual Picnic & Cocktails (BYO) in the Grove.
- **Sun. Sept. 3rd @ ~7:30pm:** Festival of Lights boat parade on Chocorua Lake – bring a boat & participate!
- **Sat. Oct. 7th @ 9am – 10:30am:** “Adopt a Highway” Route 16 trash pick-up (meet in Grove at 8:45am).

*For latest details and schedule changes, see
<http://www.chocorualakeconservancy.org/news/2017-events/>*

Wildlife Notes

This eagle that took up residence at the north end of the big lake in 2015 was a thrilling sight for lake visitors. Our resident loons may have disagreed, but abundant sources of other prey allowed raptor and water divers to coexist.

Bald eagles have made a strong rebound across the country, and loon numbers are on an upward trajectory as well. Threats still exist in the form of habitat loss and exposure to environmental toxins.

Protected lands and healthy waterways such as those found in Chocorua are key to the continuing success of avian wildlife.

Photo by Richard Allmendinger



2016 Annual Report

Chocorua Lake Conservancy

With great pleasure, we present CLC's 2016 Annual Report. I hope you'll agree that your support, in the form of your time, gifts and talents, are helping the Chocorua Lake Conservancy transform into a modern land trust with the necessary resources to manage and protect the 3,800 acres under CLC's care.

I recently had the pleasure to hear the author Terry Tempest Williams speak at the annual "Saving Special Places" conference, New Hampshire's annual land trust event. Terry's talk was inspirational and made me understand why I devote my time and contribute my money to CLC. I wrote down a few of her inspiring words:

"Land trusts are like water, seeping into special places, vivifying the land."

The Chocorua Lake Conservancy continues to build on the 140 year old tradition started by CP Bowditch in the 1870s of conserving land and protecting the natural beauty of the Chocorua Lake Basin, and of providing local residents and visitors with access to Chocorua Lake and nearby conservation lands.

2016 Financial Results: The CLC received \$73,293 in donations, which is twelve percent more than the prior year, and \$1,399 in cash donations to the two drop boxes our two public access areas in the Grove and Island. Thanks to forestry revenue of \$10,728 and a generous \$10,000 stewardship grant, CLC ended 2016 with an operating surplus for the third year in a row.

2016 Membership Results: CLC had an impressive 84% membership renewal rate in 2016. We added a record 68 first-time members and donors last year, including 21 new local, year-round members. Over the past three years, CLC's total membership has grown from 138 households to 360 households.

I am pleased to announce that CLC has renewed the contract of **Lynne Flaccus**, our full-time Stewardship Director who we hired a year ago as the first full-time employee in CLC's 49-year history. Lynne is responsible for advancing the stewardship program of CLC, through which we manage and steward 3,892 acres of protected land in the Chocorua Lake Basin. Lynne's salary for the next twelve months will be funded out of operating surpluses accumulated by CLC over the past three years.

I am also excited to announce that CLC now has a **dedicated office**, the first in CLC's 49-year history. We recently signed a lease for a small office in Chocorua Village for Lynne to utilize and to house her equipment and countless files. For the past year, Lynne has been working out of the basement of John and Mary Watkins, which has been occupied for almost three years by three large filing cabinets filled with a half century of CLC-related documents. John and Mary have been very generous to CLC, but it is time for us to give them back their basement for their grandchildren to enjoy.

Special thanks to the **Moir family** for their wonderful holiday gift to the Chocorua community. In December, the Moirs donated to CLC a perpetual Conservation Easement on 92 acres of previously unprotected land on Washington Hill Road. The new easement abuts CLC's Brown Lot, and is a significant addition to the network of nearly 3,800 acres conserved or owned by CLC in the Chocorua Lake Basin.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Chocorua during 2017 at one of our many CLC member events. We are grateful for the generosity, trust, and most importantly, commitment of our members to our mission.

Alex Moot
Board President (2016-17)
amoot@chocorualakeconservancy.org

THANK YOU

Members and Donors

As the Chocorua Lake Conservancy approaches its 50th year, we want to express our thanks because you – our members and donors – are amazing!

Those who invest in the CLC realize that protecting the scenic and natural resources of the Chocorua Lake watershed and providing access to visitors takes time, dedication, perseverance, and it takes resources. Our donors take a long view and stay committed for the long haul.

Thank you! Our growing community of supporters makes possible the impact and results achieved every year. Your dedication and commitment inspire and instill confidence in people who choose to become new members. Donations of all sizes are greatly appreciated and further our mission.

Please take pride and celebrate with us! Your philanthropic investment has made enormous strides towards helping the CLC transform into a modern land trust with the resources necessary to protect the Chocorua Lake Basin in perpetuity. Thank you – we appreciate every contribution along the way.

<u>Members & Friends</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Family Memberships (\$100)	228	194
Individual Memberships (\$50 - \$99)	88	84
Friends (\$1 to \$49)	42	37
Student Memberships (\$20)	2	1
<i>total households:</i>	360	316



Help protect the Chocorua Lake Basin by renewing your membership:

- \$20 (Student)
- \$25 (Friend)
- \$50 (Individual Membership)
- \$100 (Family Membership)
- \$250 (Narrows Bridge Society)
- \$500 (Little Lake Society)
- \$1,000 (Chocorua Lake Society)
- \$2,500 (Mt Chocorua Society)
- Other Amount (please specify): _____

Please make check payable to “Chocorua Lake Conservancy” and mail it to:

Chocorua Lake Conservancy
PO Box 105
Chocorua, NH 03817

Or donate online today by visiting www.chocorualakeconservancy.org.

Make a difference today:

Make a Gift of Securities. Please email us at donations@chocorualakeconservancy.org for instructions.

Join the CLC's Legacy Society! Create a lasting legacy with a planned estate gift. Email us.

Become a Sustaining Member! Go to our website, click “Support Us”, and make a recurring donation.

Income Statement (FY 2016)

For the period from January 1 to December 31

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>	
Membership Contributions & Donations	\$73,293		\$65,462	
Donation Drop Boxes	\$1,399		\$1,144	
Interest, Dividends & Realized Gains	\$9,660		\$8,195	
Grants	\$4,500		\$20,000	
Stewardship Contribution	\$10,000		\$0	
Forestry	\$10,728		\$0	
Merchandise Sales	\$1,495		\$0	
Contributed In Kind Services	\$151		\$8,484	
TOTAL INCOME	\$111,226		\$103,285	
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>2016</u>	% total expenses	<u>2015</u>	% total expenses
Land Conservation	\$43,101	51.2%	\$9,303	11.3%
Staff Compensation & Benefits	\$29,507		\$0	
Office Expenses	\$4,106		\$493	
Legal & Consulting Services	\$9,487		\$8,810	
Property Management	\$15,929	18.9%	\$19,233	23.3%
Lake Patrol & Public Convenience	\$10,002		\$7,640	
Forestry	\$2,673		\$0	
Grove, Island & Bridge Railings	\$20		\$5,660	
Property Insurance	\$2,277		\$4,975	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$697		\$688	
Other Expenses	\$260		\$270	
Administration (Finance & Governance)	\$3,297	3.9%	\$28,303	34.3%
Annual Meeting & Board Meetings	\$459		\$559	
Legal Services	\$0		\$15,917	
Liability Insurance	\$846		\$1,929	
Office Expenses & IT Services	\$492		\$2,116	
Conferences	\$1,280		\$55	
Consulting Services	\$0		\$6,830	
Other Expenses	\$220		\$898	
Education & Outreach	\$12,118	14.4%	\$7,774	9.4%
Spring Newsletter & Annual Report	\$5,709		\$4,420	
Fall Newsletter	\$1,122		\$1,179	
Membership Dues to Other Organizations	\$950		\$1,500	
Member Events	\$2,002		\$276	
Website, Brochure & IT Services	\$724		\$454	
Merchandise	\$1,102		\$0	
Other Expenses	\$509		\$0	
Development & Membership	\$9,641	11.4%	\$9,935	12.0%
Membership Renewal	\$791		\$2,801	
Year End Appeal	\$1,025		\$967	
Membership Drive	\$2,951		\$3,371	
PayPal & Credit Card Fees	\$1,295		\$861	
Other Expenses	\$3,580		\$1,935	
Contributed In Kind Services	\$117	0.1%	\$7,991	9.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$84,202		\$82,540	
<u>OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</u>	\$27,025		\$20,745	

<u>OTHER INCOME & EXPENSES</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses)	\$16,251	(\$10,599)
Campaign donations	\$504,572	\$0
Campaign expenses	(\$23,110)	\$0

<u>ASSETS (as of Dec 31)</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$198,579	\$42,980
Investments at Fair Value	\$608,261	\$256,136
<i>Total Current Assets:</i>	\$806,841	\$299,116
Conservation Covenants & Easements	\$154,505	\$97,210
Fee-Owned Properties	\$510,461	\$550,729
<i>Total Fixed Assets:</i>	\$664,966	\$647,939
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,471,806	\$947,055

Volunteer Recognition

We are greatly grateful for the more than 60 volunteers, committee and board members who supported the CLC with their time and talents during 2016!

Newsletter

Editor & Designer

Laura Cannon

Contributors

Dwight Baldwin
Harriet Hofheinz
Don Johnson
Betsy Memishiam
Sam Newsom
Alex Moot
Theo Page
John Watkins
Ruth Weld
Peg Wheeler

Highway Trash Pickups

Dwight Baldwin
Tim Baldwin
Mike Borys
David Buchanan
Jen Buchanan
Ryan Buchanan
Laura Cannon
Lee Cannon
Melissa Emerson
Nancy Fryberger
Geoffrey Gill
Benedicte Hallowell
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Jean McKinney
Hannah Merson
Jacob Merson
Rebeka Merson
Alex Moot
Michael Robbins
Sara Schlaemann
Anna Spack
Kem Stewart
Maddie Vanwinkle
Ruth Weld
Steve Weld
John Wheeler
Anne T Zwart
Eleanor Zwart

Member Cookouts

Mathews Family
Wheeler Family
Joanne Kelly
Pete Lewis
Rudy Lewis
Steve Lanou
Tisha McIlwraith

“Save a Loon” Fishing Derby

Ryan Buchanan, Chair
David Buchanan
Jen Buchanan

Annual Meeting

Nancy Fryberger
Harriet Hofheinz
Pam Helm
Tish McIlwraith
Jean McKinney

Parade of Lights & Picnic

Harriet Hofheinz
Sarah Lloyd Hall
Ruth Weld

Labor Day Porch Party

Wheeler Family
Alex Moot
Amey Moot

Social Media Coordinator

Ruth Weld

Website

Alex Moot
Ruth Weld

Membership Renewal Mailing

Geoff Gill
Steve Lanou
Jean McKinney
Alex Moot
Kaly Moot
Tish McIlwraith
Andrew McIlwraith
Andrew McIlwraith
Nancy Roosa
Ruth Weld

Year-End Appeal Mailing

Geoff Gill
Karen Gill
Steve Lanou
Jean McKinney
Alex Moot
Tish McIlwraith
Andrew McIlwraith
Nancy Roosa
Mieke van der Wamsen
Peg Wheeler
Penny Wheeler-Abbott

Wood Duck Boxes

Thad Berrier

Donation Drop Boxes

John Wheeler

Information Kiosks

Pam Helm

CHOC Stickers

Ruth Weld
Alex Moot

Brochure Design

Ruth Weld
Alex Moot

Apparel Fundraising

Sarah Lloyd Hall

Office Space

John Watkins
Mary Watkins

Board Meeting Space

Chocorua Library
Drummond Woodsum

Trail Maintenance

Chocorua Mountain Club

Kate Lanou, Co-Chair
Pete Lewis, Co-Chair
Joanne Lewis, Co-Chair
John Watkins (CMC map)
Cristin Bailey
(Trails Manager,
Forest Service)
Jack Waldron
(President, Wonalancet
Out Door Club)

Land Conservation Committee

Peg Wheeler, Chair
Tim Baldwin
Mason Browne
Harriet Hofheinz
Neely Lanou
Amey Moot
Nat Tipton
John Watkins

Property Management Committee

David Farley, Co-Chair
John Watkins, Co-Chair
Dwight Baldwin
Bob Seston

Lake Protection Committee

Dwight Baldwin, Chair
Melissa Baldwin
Tim Baldwin
Lindsay Cannon
Tara Schroeder
Steve Weld
Townsend Zwart

Education & Outreach Committee

Ruth Weld, Chair
Laura Cannon
Pam Helm
Harriet Hofheinz
Sarah Lloyd Hall
Tisha McIlwraith
Theo Page

Finance Committee

Bob Seston, Chair
Geoffrey Gill
Alex Moot

Audit Committee

Geoffrey Gill, Chair

Development & Membership Committee

Steve Lanou, Chair
Jean McKinney
Alex Moot

Governance Committee

Melissa Baldwin, Chair
Peg Wheeler
Penny Wheeler-Abbott

Nominating Committee

Alex Moot, Chair
David Farley
John Watkins

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Peg Wheeler, Vice President
Bob Seston, Treasurer
Penny Wheeler-Abbott,
Secretary
Melissa Baldwin
David Farley**
Geoffrey Gill
Steve Lanou
Jean McKinney
Tish McIlwraith*

*Cycled off Board in August 2016

**New member as of August 2016

STAFF

Lynne Flaccus,
Stewardship Director
Troy Emerson, Lake Patrol
(May to October)

WE'VE
GROWN
BECAUSE
OF YOU!

Stewardship Corner

Lynne Flaccus, Stewardship Director

The ice on Lake Chocorua went out near sunset April 18th and though the loons are not back as of this writing, spring is definitely here. It's nice to see the forest floor and fields around the Basin again!

The snows of winter make it challenging to conduct property visits and gather information for maps and reports I have been working on. The snowshoeing is wonderful of course, but it's hard to find stone monuments and boundaries and so this winter has been less about field work and more about finishing up properties from the fall. I did get out on some of the CLC properties for stewardship visits to walk boundaries; finding tracks of squirrels, hare, deer, moose and even a bobcat on the Chamberlin Browne property. Nice to see who in the world of wildlife uses our properties in the depths of winter!



This spring I am looking forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting landowners I didn't have a chance to meet last summer or fall. The Current Conditions Reports I have been working on now total 46, some covering multiple abutting covenants owned by the same family, with 65+ parcels walked. The reports include maps, written descriptions and photos that provide a living document for landowners and CLC to use as a baseline into the future. These documents are especially useful when a property goes on the market (as several have this year) and changes hands. Landowners are encouraged to provide the information to their realtor and any potential buyer as a resource for what the land includes.

Other adventures this winter included an owl talk at Cook Memorial Library and an Owl Prowl in Tamworth. A good turn out and a fun walk in the dark! No owls heard but a beautiful moon rise none the less. The Property Management Committee has been hard at work planning for spring and summer work on bird houses, Grove and Island mulching and trail and road work on Clark Preserve (see page 2).

The usual "office work" of scanning, copying and filing documents, and researching deeds has also kept me busy. I'm looking forward to settling into the office and doing that indoor work from one space, as well as looking forward to having a space for members to stop in and say hello!

If I haven't met with you yet to learn about your property and walk your boundaries, please reach out by phone or email and let me know when you might be around. I'm starting to schedule spring and summer visits and would love your help in finding a good time to meet! Even if you don't have time for a visit, I'd love to talk with you by phone to learn about your connections to the land.

Hope to see you around the Basin or at the office soon! Happy spring!

Lynne Flaccus, Margaret "Peg" Wheeler and Penny Wheeler-Abbott presented stewardship updates to small CLC gatherings in Maine and Massachusetts.
Photo by Laura Cannon.

2016 Chocorua Lake Water-Quality Report

Dwight Baldwin
Chair, Lake Protection Committee

As can be seen in the report at right, the water quality of Chocorua Lake continued to be excellent through the spring, summer and fall of 2016. Water clarity, chlorophyll-a (a measure of suspended algal growth) and total phosphorous were all well within the excellent range.

Accessory water-quality measurements also indicate that the lake is a healthy aquatic ecosystem. The pH (acidity) of the water was about neutral (pH = 7.0), and the low specific conductance indicates low amounts of dissolved solids (either human-caused contaminants or naturally-occurring substances) in the water. The slight color is attributed to the input of dissolved organic material from the wetlands through which the Chocorua River flows before entering the lake. The low alkalinity of the water reflects the absence of soluble carbonate minerals in the bedrock that underlies the watershed.

The full report will be available through the NHLLMP web site at:

<https://extension.unh.edu/Volunteer/NH-Lakes-Lay-Monitoring-Program>

Editors' Note: Funding for the Chocorua Lake water quality monitoring program is provided by the Conservancy. The New Hampshire Lakes Lay Monitoring Program is administered jointly through the UNH Cooperative Extension Natural Resources Program Team and the Center for Freshwater Biology at the University of New Hampshire. The Chocorua Lake Conservancy has been participating in the Program since 1981. See the Fall/Winter 2015 CLC Newsletter for more about the life cycle of lakes, long term trends, and what makes Chocorua an oligotrophic lake.



The ethereal beauty of neutral pH, low alkalinity, and a healthy level of dissolved organic material.
Photo by Pen Hallowell.

CHOCORUA LAKE

2016 SAMPLING HIGHLIGHTS

Station – 1 South

Tamworth, NH



Refer to the 2016 Chocorua Lake Annual Report for additional information.

Blue = Excellent = Oligotrophic
Yellow = Fair = Mesotrophic
Red = Poor = Eutrophic
Gray = No Data

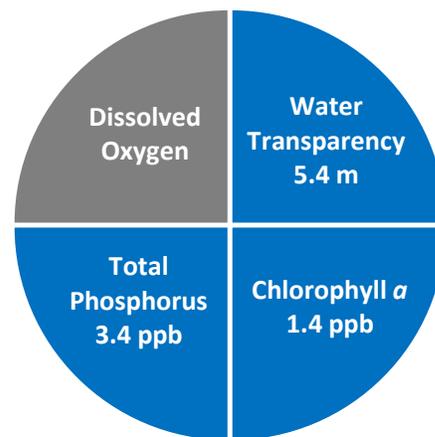


Figure 1. Chocorua Lake Water Quality (2016)

Table 1. 2016 Chocorua Lake Seasonal Averages and NH DES Trophic Level Classification Criteria

Parameter	Oligotrophic "Excellent"	Mesotrophic "Fair"	Eutrophic "Poor"	Chocorua Lake Average (range)	Chocorua Lake Classification
Water Clarity (meters)	> 4.0	2.5 – 4.0	< 2.5	5.4 meters (4.7 – 6.6)	Oligotrophic
Chlorophyll <i>a</i> (ppb)	< 3.3	3.3 – 5.0	> 5.0	1.4 ppb (0.7 – 2.1)	Oligotrophic
Total Phosphorus (ppb)	< 8.0	8.0 – 12.0	> 12.0	3.4 ppb (2.8 – 3.8)	Oligotrophic
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	5.0 – 7.0	2.0 – 5.0	< 2.0	Not Measured	Not Assessed

Table 2. 2016 Chocorua Lake Seasonal Average Accessory Water Quality Measurements

Parameter	Assessment Criteria					Chocorua Lake Average (range)	Chocorua Lake Classification
	< 10 uncolored	10 – 20 slightly colored	20 – 40 lightly tea colored	40 – 80 tea colored	> 80 highly colored		
Color (color units)	< 10 uncolored	10 – 20 slightly colored	20 – 40 lightly tea colored	40 – 80 tea colored	> 80 highly colored	17.6 color units (11.3 – 29.5)	Slightly colored
Alkalinity (mg/L)	< 0.0 acidified	0.1 – 2.0 extremely vulnerable	2.1 – 10 moderately vulnerable	10.1 – 25.0 low vulnerability	> 25.0 not vulnerable	3.9 mg/L (2.6 – 4.8)	Moderately vulnerable
pH (std units)	< 5.5 suboptimal for successful growth and reproduction		6.5 – 9.0 optimal range for fish growth and reproduction			7.2 standard units (range: 7.0 – 7.4)	Optimal range for fish growth and reproduction
Specific Conductivity (uS/cm)	< 50 uS/cm Characteristic of minimally impacted NH lakes		50-100 uS/cm Lakes with some human influence	> 100 uS/cm Characteristic of lakes experiencing human disturbances		38.3 uS/cm (range: 34.6 – 42.2)	Characteristic of minimally impacted NH lakes

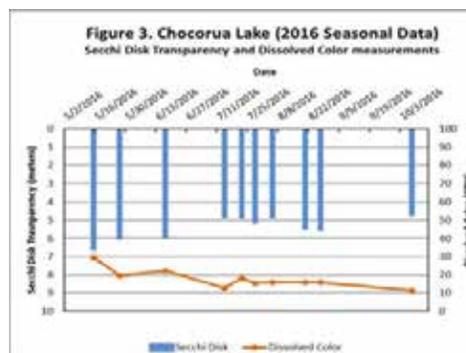
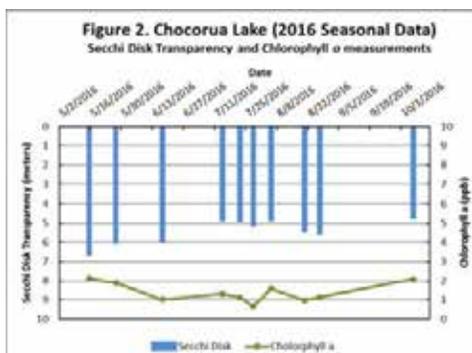


Figure 2 and 3. Seasonal Secchi disk transparency, chlorophyll *a* changes and dissolved color concentrations. Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the interplay among Secchi Disk transparency, chlorophyll *a* and dissolved color. Shallower water transparency measurements oftentimes correspond to increases in chlorophyll *a* and/or color concentrations.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Chocorua Lake Conservancy Newsletter

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THANK YOU to all who submitted photos!



The Chocorua Lake Conservancy is a non-profit land conservation organization dedicated to the protection of the scenic and natural resources of the Chocorua Lake Basin and surrounding area for the benefit of all present and future visitors.

Find us online at:

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- ♦ Washington Hill Gift Is a Family Legacy
- ♦ Deep Connections and History Inspired Moir Family Gift
- ♦ NRCS Grand and CLC Volunteers Provide Habitat for Birds
- ♦ Profile: Larry Nickerson, Builder and Conservator
- ♦ 2016 Chocorua Lake Water Quality Report
- ♦ Stewardship Corner
- ♦ Upcoming Events
- ♦ Annual Report

The Chocorua Lake Conservancy publishes and distributes an educational newsletter twice a year, in the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter.

Current and past issues are posted online at:

➤ chocorualakeconservancy.org/news/newsletter/