

HOOKED

on Oswego County

News from the Oswego County Tourism Office

Summer 2010

Treasure Hunting in Oswego County

Oswego County is a trove of history and nature. With geocaching and letterboxing, people of all ages can discover dozens of historical sites and museums as well as nature parks and trail systems with just a few clues and a GPS unit.

These outdoor treasure hunts send individuals and teams searching for a cache using hints and GPS coordinates. The cache is a container with a log or stamp book and possibly a few trinkets. After signing or stamping the book, the finder swaps a trinket of their own for one in the cache.

Geocaching and letterboxing are family-friendly activities that encourage education and environmental stewardship in the great outdoors. They also provide a new opportunity to promote local tourism.

Across the country, tourism agencies are using this innovative tool to attract visitors. While some groups highlight existing geocaches, others are developing geo-trails through their region or attraction that introduce people to local history, culture and ecology.

There are more than 200 caches just waiting to be found in Oswego County! We are currently developing itineraries and a Web page to showcase some of these great finds. If you are interested in learning more about geocaching or letterboxing, or the development of a geo-trail, contact our office at 315/349-8322.

Summer Tourism Update!

The summer season is upon us and we have much to celebrate in Oswego County. First off, congratulations to all who were involved in the fight to save our historic treasure, Fort Ontario. If nothing else, all of the positive energy that was generated over the past few months has raised the public's awareness of the fort. It is an important part of our community's character and it's obvious that many people around the state appreciate its significance.

I want to share just a few of many positive and energetic activities that are taking place this summer. The Canal Information Center at 149 S. First St., Fulton officially opened on May 6. Located in the lobby of the Community Development Center annex, the center contains brochure racks, canal photos



Barry Leemann, Chairman of the Oswego County Legislature, welcomes news media and travel officials from Israel to Oswego County May 13 at the H. Lee White Marine Museum. The group also visited the Safe Haven Museum and Fort Ontario. Also pictured are County Legislators Morris Sorbello and Mark Fuce, Jane Abraham, Marine Museum volunteer, and Markly Wilson, Director of International Marketing for the I Love New York program.

and informational materials produced by the Fulton Friends of History and other organizations along the Oswego River Canal. Hats off to Carrie Butler and her associates who secured the space, built brochure racks and pulled the effort together. I'm also happy to report that

News from



It's great outdoors.

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2010 Summer Events

our office was recently awarded a grant from the New York State Canal Corporation to update and reprint our 38-page "Canalling" interpretive guide.

Oswego County was honored to host a group of leading news media and travel professionals from Israel. They were on a familiarization tour organized by the NYS Department of Economic Development, Canal NY, and local tourism promotion agencies. The group spent the morning of May 13 in Oswego visiting the Safe Haven Museum and Education Center, H. Lee White Marine Museum, and Fort Ontario. Many thanks to the volunteers from these fine organizations who took time to share our history and make our guests feel welcome.

Agriculture has always been a vital part of our county's rural heritage,

Continued on next page

Oswego County Fair Gearing Up for 2010

The Oswego County Fair Association has been working hard to make sure that the 2010 event will be a fun-filled family affair with something for everyone. This year's Oswego County Fair will kick-off with a big parade on Thursday, July 1st and will continue through Monday, July 5th.

The theme this year is "The Treasures of Fall in Oswego County" and will emphasize the many things that happen in the fall to make our county great. This includes crops, holidays and special events. New this year is an electronic arcade, with the chance to sign up for a "Guitar Hero" contest daily.

Each day has its own excitement with Harness Racing at noon on Thursday, July 1st, which is also Senior Citizens Day. Friday, July 2, has been designated as Agricultural Appreciation Day with a Pony Pulls Show for the Grandstand in the afternoon, as well as the Demolition Derby at night.

Legislators' Day on Saturday, July 3rd, has something old and something new for visitors to experience. The Japanese Bearded Iris and Cut Leaf Hostas Show are back this year and the newly added 4-H Dog Show will be in the afternoon. A huge Fireworks Display will take place at dusk, after the Truck Pulls.

Sunday morning, July 4th, we will have the usual church service, followed by a Classic Car Cruise-in. The busy afternoon will be followed by the second Demolition Derby at 5p.m.

The Fair will also be open until 5 p.m. on Monday to remember the official day of celebration for the Fourth of July. This will also be Children's Day, with special activities for the kids from 2 p.m. to 5p.m. The annual Baby Contest will take place at 10 a.m.

In keeping with the fall theme, on Monday, the last day of the fair, there will be a Halloween Parade at 1 p.m. This will be for any and all ages with prizes awarded in several categories. For more information you can visit www.oswegocountyfair.com.

Summer Tourism Update Continued:

and this summer promises to be one of our most productive yet! Within Oswego County's borders you'll find no less than 57 agri-tourism businesses – including certified organic farms, berry farms, apple and cherry orchards, fruit juice and wine producers, farm markets, and goat and dairy farms that are open to the public. Community farmers' markets feature produce and other local farm products throughout the summer. See inside for a schedule, along with info on fishing tournaments, the Oswego Festival of Sail, the Oswego County Fair, and more tourism news.

You'll find a complete listing of events, charter captains and fishing conditions on our Web site at www.visitoswegocounty.com. Have a great summer!

~ Jan



Tall Ships To Embark On Port City 2010 Oswego Festival of Sail Event June 25 - 27

The shores of Lake Ontario will be emblazoned with tall ships at the Oswego Festival of Sail, set for June 25, 26 and 27 in the Oswego Harbor, according to Festival of Sail Committee Member and H. Lee White Marine Museum Executive Director Mercedes Niess.

The festival will include tours of the tall ships *Pride of Baltimore II*, *Unicorn*, and *Lynx*, as well as vendors, children's events, music, and sail aways on *Lynx*.

The event is being sponsored by North Shore Oil Company, Dunkin' Donuts, Best Western Captain's Quarters, Step One Creative, Oswego

County Department of Community Development, Tourism and Planning, City of Oswego, The Palladium Times, Pathfinder Bank, H. Lee White Marine Museum, Port of Oswego Authority, and Greater Oswego/Fulton Chamber of Commerce.

"We're very excited to announce this new Oswego event for the end of June," said Niess. "The committee has worked hard to bring these three wonderful tall ships to our community, and are planning a variety of family-filled activities and events for the three-day festival."

The event, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day at the Oswego West Pier and H. Lee White Marine Museum in Oswego, will cost \$10 per single adult, \$5 for youth ages 5 to 16, free for children under 5, \$8 for seniors 65 and over, and/or a flat fee of \$25 for families of six persons. On Friday only, military with ID can get in for \$5. On Saturday only, with a Dunkin' Donuts card, adult admission is \$8. If you wish to participate on a sail away

there will be a separate fee.

"Oswego has such a tremendous maritime history and this event will complement that greatly over the three days," said Shane Broadwell, Festival of Sail Committee Member, and partner with Broadwell Properties. "We look forward to having the Upstate New York community come and enjoy the beauty and splendor of these tall ships."

Pride of Baltimore II is a reproduction of an 1812-era Baltimore Clipper privateer. *Lynx* is an interpretation of an actual privateer named *Lynx* built by Thomas Kemp in 1812 in Fell's Point, Maryland. The hull of *Unicorn* was crafted from recycled metals of captured German U-boats salvaged after World War II. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit the H. Lee White Marine Museum.

For more information on the Oswego Festival of Sail event or for sponsorship opportunities please call (315) 402-8802.

There's Plenty to Do All Summer Long in Oswego County!

Farmers' Markets



It's great harvest.

Brewerton Farmers' Market Thursdays, July 1 to Sept. 2, 6 pm. Fort Brewerton Historical Society, 9 Rte. 11, 315/676-3042, carlinjock35@aol.com.

Central Square Farmers' Market Wednesdays, May 12 to Sept. 8, 4-8 pm. Goettel Community Park, Rte. 11, 315/668-2558, dstevens@incpark.com, www.villageofcentralsquare-ny.us.

Fulton Farmers' Market Saturdays, May 29 to Oct. 23, 8-1pm. Canal Landing Parking Lot, S. Second St. 315/343-7681, jfs@oswegofultonchamber.com, www.oswegofultonchamber.com.

Mexico Farmers' Market Mondays, June to Oct., 4-7 pm. Main Street, 315/963-0642, mexicofarmmarket@hotmail.com.

Oswego Farmers' Market Thursdays, May 27 to Sept. 30, 5-9 pm. Along W. First St. 315/343-7681, jfs@oswegofultonchamber.com, www.oswegofultonchamber.com.

Parish Farmers' Market Saturdays, July 10 to Aug. 28, 9-2 pm. Corner of Routes 69 and 69A. 315/625-7331, chamber@parish-ny.com, parishchamberofcommerce.parish-ny.com.

Pulaski Farmers' Market with Music in the Park Fridays, June 4 to Sept. 24, 4-7 pm, Music in the Park, 5-7 pm. Jefferson St. 315/298-6407 or 315/298-9990, brian@lakeshorehardwoods.com, www.pulaskinychamber.com.

Volney Farmers' Market Tuesdays, June 1 to Oct. 12, 5-8 pm. Parking area of the Volney Town Hall, 1445 Co. Rte. 6, 315/593-3575 or 315/593-8288, www.townofvolney.com.

Fishing Tournaments

June 19 – July 18: Lake Ontario Counties Trout and Salmon Summer Derby. 888/733-5246 or 585/545-4247, www.loc.org.

June 25 – June 27: 10th Annual K&G Lodge All Women's Fishing Tournament. Oswego. 343-2475, www.kglodge.com.

June 26: The A-TOM-MIK Challenge at the Oswego Marina. 345-6683

June 26: Annual Bass Tournament, Sandy Pond. 387-6310, www.sandypondsportsmans.com.

July 10 – 11: 16th Annual Lake Ontario Pro-Am Salmon & Trout Team Tournament. Oswego, Mexico, Port Ontario. 349-8322, www.lakeontarioproam.net.

July 24: Mike's Little Salmon River Challenge, Mexico. 963-3119.

Aug. 7: Salmon/Trout Derby & Chicken BBQ, Sandy Pond. 387-6310, www.sandypondsportsmans.com.

Aug. 20 – Sept. 6: Lake Ontario Counties Trout and Salmon Fall Derby. 888/733-5246 or 585/545-4247, www.loc.org.

Firemen's Field Day Schedule

Lacona: June 3 - 5, parade June 5 at 7 p.m.

Orwell: Old Home Days, June 11 - 13, parade June 12 at 11:45 a.m.

Volney: June 17 - 19, parade June 17 at 6 p.m.

Constantia: June 25 - 27, parade June 26 at 7 p.m.

Oswego County Fair, Sandy Creek: July 1 - July 5, parade July 1 at 7 p.m.; fireworks July 3 at 10 p.m.

Mexico: July 15 - 17, parade July 15 at 7 p.m.

Pulaski: Aug. 5 - 7; parade Aug. 7 at 6 p.m.

Hannibal: Aug. 19 - 21; parade Aug. 19 at 7 p.m.

Williamstown: Aug. 19 - 21; parade Aug. 21 at 6 p.m.

Redfield: Old Home Days, Sept. 4 - 5; parade Sept. 4 at 6 p.m.

Outdoor Concerts

Central Square: Summer Concerts in the Park Series, Wednesdays, July 7 to Aug. 25, 7-9 pm in July, 6-8 pm in Aug., Goettel Park, Rte. 11.

Fulton: Tunes in June, Wednesdays, June 2 to June 23, 12-2 pm, Canal Landing Gazebo, S. First St.

Fulton: Concerts at Bullhead Point w/ the Fulton Concert Band, Thursdays, July to Aug., 7-8 pm, Bullhead Point Pavilion, W. Broadway.

Fulton: Fulton Summer Concert Series, Fridays, July to Aug., 6:30-8 pm, Canal Landing Gazebo, S. First St.

Oswego: Linear Park Concert Series, Tuesdays, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, 7-9 pm, Veteran's Stage, West Linear Park, W. First St.

Oswego: Summer Sunset Concert Series with Don Goodness' Concert Band and Stan Gosek's Jazz Band, Wednesdays, June 30 to Aug. 25, No concert July 21, 7:30-8:30 pm in June and July, 7-8 pm in Aug. Brietbeck Park, Lake St.

Oswego: G.S. Steamer's Riverfront Concert Series, Thursdays, July 29 to Sept. 2, 5:30-10:30 pm, Concert stage behind Econolodge Riverfront, E. First St.

Phoenix: Summer Concert Series: Mondays, June 28 to Aug. 23, No concert July 5, 6:30-8:30 pm in June and July, 6-8 pm in Aug. Henley Park, State St.

Phoenix: Music in the Park "Picking and Grinning", Thursdays, July 1 to Sept. 2, 5:30-7:30 pm, Henley Park, State St.

Phoenix: Country Music in the Park Featuring the Morgans, Fridays, July 2 to Sept. 3, 6-8 pm. Dinner and pie served dockside 4:30 to 7:30 pm, Henley Park, State St.

Pulaski: Music in the Park, Fridays, June 4 to Sept. 24, 5-7 pm, South Park, Jefferson St.

2010 Summer Events:

6/4 Fri **Canal Days**, 9am-2pm. Canal Island in Phoenix. www.bridgehousebrats.us.

6/12 Sat **Oswego County Hospice Cup Regatta & Walk/Run for Hope**, 9am-8pm. Oswego Yacht Club, Lake St. in Oswego

6/13 Sun **Victorian Picnic**, 1-4pm. Richardson-Bates House Museum, 135 E. Third St. in Oswego

7/3 Sat **Community Fireworks Display**, dusk. Between Rte. 11 and Rte 81 bridges in Brewerton

7/4 Sun **Oswego's Independence Day Celebration**, parade 1pm, fireworks 9:45pm.

7/9-7/10 Fri-Sat **Children's Glassworks Theatre Presents "The Hobbit"**, 7pm. Cleveland Historical Society, North St.

7/11 Sun **Concert and Fireworks**, 5:30-10pm. Mexico Point Park, off NYS Rte. 104B.

7/13 Tues **Ice Cream Social**, 6pm. Oswego Town Historical Society, 2370 Co. Rte. 7.

7/17 Sat **Family Fun Day**, time TBA. Town of Granby, 820 Co. Rt. 8.

7/18 Sun **Family Fun Day**, 1-4pm. Scriba Town Park, 803 O'Connor Road.

7/22-25 Thurs-Sun **Gulliver's Wilderness Airpark 12th Annual Fly-in**, sun-up to sun-down. Gulliver's Wilderness Airpark, 122 Red Schoolhouse Rd. in Palermo

7/22-25 Thurs-Sun **Oswego's Harborfest**, 343-6858, www.oswegoharborfest.com

7/25 Sun **High Gear Dirt Riders Have Scramble**, 8am-4pm. Western NY Off-Road Association, 68 Clifford Rd. in Palermo

7/31 Sat **Canal Celebration**, 11am-4:30pm. H. Lee White Marine Museum, End of W. First St. Pier in Oswego

8/7 Sat **Parish Olde Home Day**, 9am-4pm. Corner of routes 69 & 69A.

8/8 Sun **Parish Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Car Show**, 8am-4pm. Parish Vol. Fire Co., 16 Union St.

8/13-8/14 Fri-Sat **Fulton Jazz Festival**, Fri/5-11pm, Sat/4-11pm. William Gillard Dr. (behind Fulton War Memorial).

8/13-8/14 Fri-Sat **Magic in Minetto**, Friday/ 7pm, Saturday/11am-3pm

8/20-8/22 Fri-Sun **Summer's End Fly-in**, sun-up to sun-down. Gulliver's Wilderness Airpark, 1222 Red Schoolhouse Rd. in Palermo

8/27 Fri **Ghost Experiences**, 8-9:30pm. Mexico Point Park, off NYS Rte. 104B.

8/29 Sun **Taste of Oswego**, noon-6pm. Behind Best Western Hotel, E. First St.

An ultralight buzzes through the air at the annual Gulliver's Pond Fly-In. Photo by Brenda Dann



For a complete list of events, visit our Web site at: <http://www.visitoswegocounty.com/In/Festivals.aspx>



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