



Dyken Pond-erings

Newsletter of the Friends of the Dyken Pond Center

Issue 13

Promoting environmental awareness in people of all ages

Winter 2010

Dyken Pond Environmental
Education Center
475 Dyken Pond Rd.
Cropseyville, NY 12052
518 658-2055
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A Message from the Director:

While the Friends have had a busy 2009 raising funds for the purchase of the Otter Cove parcel (see Fall 09 newsletter for details), it occurred to me that folks may want to know more details about what exactly the Center does and where your support goes. At the Dyken Pond Center, there are a total of 594 acres of property open to public access. Of this total, Rensselaer County owns 228 acres of land and 180 acres of surface water. The remaining 186 acres is conservation land, allowing public use through conservation easements and is used by the Center for trails and educational programs. Out of this conservation land, 86 acres is in private ownership and 100 acres is owned by the Friends of the Dyken Pond Center.

Dyken Pond Center's primary mission is to provide outdoor educational programs to people of all ages. We have a strong emphasis on providing programs for youth and their families. In 2009, the Center served 4,131 students in a total of 209 scheduled programs:

In addition to our scheduled programs, we have about 15,000 visitors use the Center every year for fishing, hiking, bird watching, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, paddling and nature study. We promote outdoor education by having equipment rentals available to the public including snowshoes, canoes, kayaks, GPS units

and Lessons in a Backpack (check the website for a complete list). We have a lending library for teachers and youth educators. They can borrow curriculum guides, lesson materials and books. Center staff also work behind the scenes promoting environmental education. Our latest project is to work with the New York Outdoor Education Association to promote an Environmental Literacy Plan for all schools in New York State.

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Board of Directors

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Margaret Stein	663-7605
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Edward Gill	283-9232
Craig Phillips	279-9626
Ken James	766-5148
John Diegnan	658-3061



Type of program/	Number of programs in 2009
Youth programs (4-H, scouts):	23
Public programs:	34
After school programs:	15
School programs (on-site):	34
Library programs	13
Outreach programs	9
Home School Programs	23
Birthday Party	1
Youth Service Projects	5
Volunteer Trainings	2
Summer camp (6 – 13 year olds)	20 days
Rough Riders (teen service learning)	30 days

A Message from the Director cont.:

I couldn't do half of what we do at the Center without the Friends support. I am so pleased to work with the Board on what we all think is so important: Getting people to enjoy the outdoors! Together, the Friends and the Center will continue to offer different ways to teach people to care for the natural world. As a Friends member and/or Otter Cove donor, your contributions support not just land protection, but support all of these great programs and help make all of this possible.

Lisa Hoyt, Director



Witch hobble



"Kathy Jimino, Rensselaer County Executive joined the Otter Cove Celebration on September 12, 2009. Cake and ice cream was enjoyed by all after we hiked the brand new trail that is now open to the public".

Good Memories

My first public event at Dyken Pond Center was the Yule Log event in December 1991. A friend and I took our kids out on a snowy day and participated in a fun time around the bon fire. I think my children, Jeff and Kim were ages 6 and 5! I came home and immediately mailed a check to join the Friends of Dyken Pond. I have been going back every year since and I don't recall ever missing a year.

The next spring I went to a board meeting of the fledgling Friends of Dyken Pond group and was asked and decided to join the board of directors. Over the years I helped plan and participated in many events and have many great memories. There were trail walks when I first got to see and then hold a red eft, bird programs when I heard my first barred owl and Spring wildflower programs where I got to see trout lilies and trillium. I also paddled for the first time in a kayak, something I still love to do. So many good times.

There was the year we and hurricane Bertha move the event. There tive robin who kept because the owl and threatening to its nest. a perfect summer eve-amphitheater. There and snow and a gorgeous a cup of hot chocolate. dragonflies and frogs and who caught them. So



One of my best contribu- working with Lisa to Outdoor Learning Ad-

recall her and I dreaming and thinking and planning every aspect of the 3 week youth program. It seemed like such a huge challenge but it all worked out. It is still going strong after 16 years and is a successful program year after year. I am proud of that!

As a board member and former treasurer, I have met so many of the nice people who visit the Center and who are members. I have watched the Friends group grow from infancy to a group that gets recognition from the County executive. We are land owners now and we are making a difference. I have worked with long term board members who I will remember for many years to come.

I have now officially resigned from the board. It is time for other things and to visit the Center as a participant and keep making more memories. My last official event was of course, the Yule log!

Thanks for all the fun times and I'll see you on the trail....

Barb Treiber

planned a nature arts festival came and we scrambled to was a bird lecture with a nawswooping at the spectators hawk must have seemed There was a music concert on ning with great flutes in the were night hikes in the cold moon and I couldn't wait for And I won't forget all the salamanders and the kids many good memories.

tions as a board member was start and run the Summer venture (SOLA). I can still

Friends of Dyken Pond Center, LTD. Treasurer's Report

2009 Summary

Account Balances			Allocated Fund Balances		
Account	Initial Balance	Ending Balance	Fund	Initial Balance	Ending Balance
CD - 1119	\$789.01	\$805.96	Cabin 3 Restoration & Pavilion	\$542.18	\$2,390.24
Credit Card	\$0.00	\$780.09	Edward's Endowment	\$500.00	\$500.00
Cash	\$82.41	\$112.54	Rough Riders Program	\$2,679.47	\$1,822.72
Checking	\$9,288.20	\$3,744.64	Scholarship Fund	\$1,405.00	\$205.00
Preferred Savings	\$27,505.28	\$22,444.67	Equipment / Repairs	\$1,805.69	\$1,805.69
Regular Savings	\$68.63	\$69.05	Program Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
			Program Material Fund	\$2,301.42	\$5,868.56
			Otter Cove Appeal*	\$17,910.00	\$3,032.76
			Otter Cove Escrow Loan	\$0.00	\$11,000.00
Total Assets	Total Allocated	Available Funds			
\$27,956.95	\$27,624.97	\$331.98			

2009 Spending Summary					
Category	Income	Expenses	Category	Income	Expenses
Accounting, Lawyer, Filing Fees	\$0.00	\$990.00	Membership - Joined by Friends	\$0.00	\$30.00
Alcott_Feb '09	\$760.00	\$790.00	Misc. (incl. Website, database & advertising)	\$233.82	\$389.42
Annual Meeting Dinner	\$274.00	\$280.00	Native American Program	\$120.00	\$0.00
Bank Fee	\$0.00	\$2.00	Otter Cove Parcel	\$30,096.74	\$56,763.96
Bank Interest	\$322.19	\$0.00	Postage	\$0.00	\$1,409.13
Benefit Concert	\$758.00	\$0.00	Printing & Copies	\$0.00	\$610.70
Bird Seed Sale	\$6,306.02	\$4,464.61	Program Fee	\$36.00	\$66.00
Brunswick Property	\$0.00	\$54.73	Refreshment/Supplies at events	\$0.00	\$194.73
Capture the Flag	\$603.00	\$0.00	RPA	\$0.00	\$100.00
DEC Camp	\$275.00	\$650.00	Sales Items	\$2,363.30	\$1,987.96
Donations	\$945.00	\$0.00	Summer Outdoor Learning Adventure	\$8,642.83	\$6,797.64
Equipment & Assets for Center	\$0.00	\$1,350.00	Supplies	\$0.00	\$1,185.58
Forest Ecology	\$110.00	\$150.00	Tom Wessels	\$1,020.00	\$910.53
Fundraisers	\$4.90	\$0.00	Tracking Series	\$115.00	\$0.00
Grafton PILOT	\$0.00	\$275.00	T-Shirt Fundraiser	\$595.50	\$63.70
Late Fee	\$0.00	-\$10.00	Wild Edibles	\$302.00	\$300.00
Loan to Friends	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	Woods Walk	\$30.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$4,418.00	\$30.00	Wreath Sales	\$1,235.00	\$507.19

Additional Notes:

* The Otter Cove Appeal has raised \$49,322.08 to date.

** The Friends have \$45,000 in an escrow account for the Otter Cove parcel loan, which is not included.

*** The Friends have a \$92,000 interest free loan which was obtained for the purchase of the Otter Cove parcel.

2nd Annual Winter

BIRD SEED SALE

To benefit the:

FRIENDS OF THE DYKEN POND CENTER

Seed available and prices:

Black oil sunflower	50 lb. Bag	\$20
Premium mixed	40 lb. Bag	\$17
Niger	20 lb. Bag	\$31
Safflower	16 lb. Bag	\$20
Cracked corn	50 lb. Bag	\$10
Sunflower hearts	20 lb. Bag	\$23
Hi energy suet cake	Each cake	\$1
Cardinal Blend	16 lb. Bag	\$18
Woodpecker Blend	20 lb. Bag	\$25
Wild Delight Cardinal Food	13.5 lb Pail	\$20

(\$3 off coupon inside-pail reusable)

Orders can be placed by emailing dykenpond@fairpoint.net or by calling 658-2055

For more information, call 658-2055

or visit

www.dykenpond.org

*****ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY*****

Feb. 26, 2010

Bird Seed must be picked-up with payment on:

**Saturday, March 6, 9 am – 12 noon at Capital Agway, Rt. 7
Brunswick**

**All orders will receive a 50% discount towards purchase of a
Bird Feeder that Day at Capital Agway**



**Friends of the Dyken Pond
Center**

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We're on the web!

www.dykenpond.org



Thank you Barb for your years of dedication and commitment to the Dyken Pond Center.

Upcoming Events!

Feb. 27: Full Snow Moon Guided Ski Trek at 7 pm. Call ahead for snow conditions. Free.

April 24: Woods Walks. Topics include vernal ponds, wetlands and woodland management.

A \$15 suggested donation will help fund the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance's Conservation Plan.
8:30 - 12:30. Call 658-2055 for more information.

Past issues of our newsletter can be found on our web site at:

www.dykenpond.org