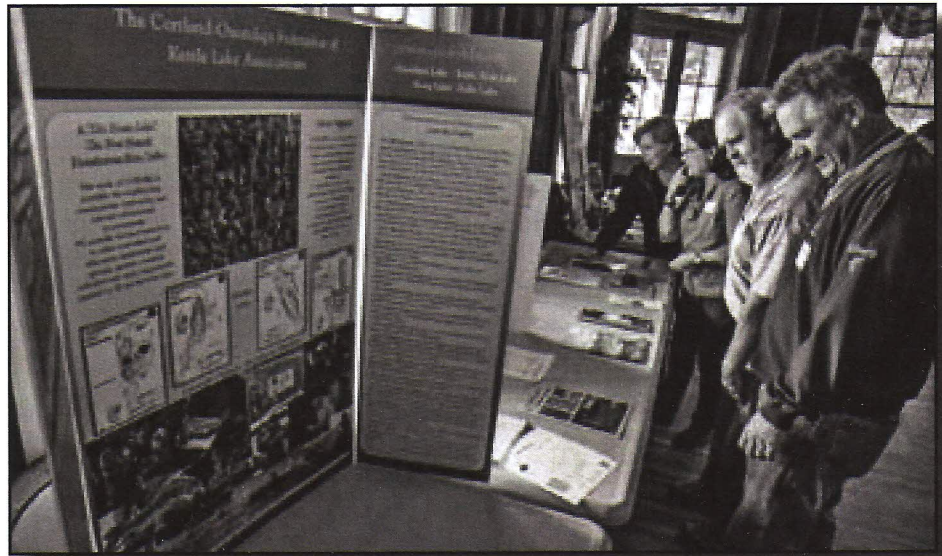


# A September Afternoon at Little York Lake

By Tarki Heath

With water in abundance in Central NY, the region is particularly well suited for water festivals and picnics. That said, few places can compete with the Little York Lake Main Pavilion (Dwyer Park) for its rustic architecture, central location, green spaces, and access to the lake. For the past six (of seven), years Little York Lake has been the venue for the Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lake Association's (C-OFOKLA) Annual Water Festival and Picnic. To have a little fun and increase community participation, each September we invite the lake communities and friends for a picnic with music, food, games and community sharing. This year our event was held on September 21st. Approximately 170 community members joined us for another lovely afternoon at Little York Lake. The weather outside was accommodating for lawn games and walks by the lake. Inside the pavilion there were tables with access to important information about our common watersheds. These sparked discussions about our experiences in protecting and maintaining our water resources. In this relaxed and friendly atmosphere, folks enjoyed each other's company with a variety of delicious food from our community kitchens and this year, Michael Crissan provided excellent music for singing, dancing and listening.

With the main mission of outreach and education on local watershed issues, C-OFOKLA has hosted over 25 scien-



*Debra Brock, Tarki Heath, Ken Brock and Jim Doring review some of the displays during C-OFOKLA's annual Water Festival and Picnic on September 21. In addition there was live music, plenty of food and games for the kids.*

tists and other professionals, who have graciously shared their expertise on a variety of watershed issues. Some of the topics have been quite serious and scientific in nature, such as preventing and managing invasive species, understanding toxic algae, the potential impact of climate change on our lakes and the shared hydrogeology of the kettle lakes. Other topics have been a bit less scientific, but no less important, including presentations on landscaping, bird-watching, and videography and photography from around the world and the Finger Lakes. The edu-

cation and awareness presentations are varied and the discussions are lively.

C-OFOKLA works with many partners throughout the year, including our state and local water resource agencies, towns and universities. It's a lot of work, but with great rewards. If you would like to know about our 2015 presentations, follow us on Facebook, keep in-touch at [www.cofokla.org](http://www.cofokla.org) or sign up for email information at [cofokla@gmail.com](mailto:cofokla@gmail.com).

All presentations are open to the public.

## Christmas at the Station and Telephone Book

Christmas at the Station is scheduled around the Thanksgiving holiday again this year. The dates are November 28, 29 and 30. According to Eleanor Preston, they have already signed up most of the regular vendors with a few others indicating interest. The coffee shop at the event will be serving soup, sandwiches, etc. on Saturday and Sunday for shopper comfort and convenience. The Tully Fire Department will be serving on Friday. This will give shoppers a chance to help out the Fire Department as well. The proceeds from the event are used to continue the restoration of the train station and to assist the Tully Area Historical Society with other programs.

The new LaFayette, Fabius and Tully phone books, published by the Historical Society have been mailed and have had a great reception from the public.

## Soup Exchange: Opportunity to Try New Recipes

Thursday night November 13  
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Padget Community Room  
Tully Free Library

Here's what you need to do:

1. Sign up ahead of time (at the circulation desk) so that we know you will be there.
2. Bring your pot of heated soup, a ladle and hot pad (to protect the table). We'll provide spoons, cups and takeout containers.
3. Bring a hard copy of your recipe and we will copy it, or email a copy to [crgleason@verizon.net](mailto:crgleason@verizon.net).
4. Come and share your soup and recipe, and take home yummy recipes to try over the long winter.