



Summer 2010

THE 'SHED SHEET



Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy

HAPPY 20TH BIRTHDAY CWC!

This year, the **Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy** marks **20 years of conservation efforts** in Chautauqua County! During that time, we have been successful in conserving or helping to conserve 719 acres of land across the county and 1.8 miles of Chautauqua Lake shoreline and its outlet. We've also educated the public and government officials on numerous lake and watershed issues through dozens of workshops and presentations. CWC will celebrate this milestone year throughout the summer with a series of events that will highlight our progress; recognize the essential role of our members, volunteers, friends and donors; and inform everyone within the Chautauqua region's watersheds of the continuing challenges and need for good watershed and lake stewardship. Two of these summer events will be held on the Chautauqua Lake shoreline, both of which are open to members and the public. The first is our "20th Birthday Bash" on Saturday, July 24th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center in Bemus Point. It will be a fun-filled afternoon for the family with children's activities, exhibits, walks through the conserved forested shoreline area, picnic food, wine tasting, birthday cake and more! The cost is \$10 per person or \$20 per family (kids under five years of age are free). The second event is our "20th Anniversary Fundraiser & Annual Meeting Dinner Celebration" on Saturday, August 21st from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the dining hall at the YMCA's Camp Onyahsa in Dewittville. The annual meeting portion of the event will be just a short presentation, with the rest of the evening dedicated to celebrating the past and future progress of the Conservancy, including highlights of its 20 years of work and a short, live auction of several special items to help raise funds for our continued conservation work. The cost is \$45 per person. Please pre-register for these events by emailing CWC at info@chautauquawatershed.org or calling 664-2166. We hope to see you there! 🌳



Events Sponsors: Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Wegmans, Western New York Urology, YMCA-CAMP ONYAHSA, Anderson Cleaners, B&B Catering, Brigiotta's Farmland Produce & Garden Center, Diane R. Bailey Interiors, Dr. Andrew Kohl, Dr. David Todd, Ecklof Bakery, Farm Fresh Foods, Hartley Buick-Honda-Pontiac-GMC Truck, Indulge Salon & Spa, Mazza Chautauqua Cellars, Sam's Club, Tops Friendly Markets, Walmart

CWC WORKS ON WATERFRONT RESTORATION PROJECTS

CWC has been moving ahead with lakeshore enhancement (riparian buffer) projects, which help intercept waterborne pollutants, control erosion and provide habitat for a variety of animals. With a grant from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, CWC engaged landscape designer and Cornell University Landscape Architecture instructor Jamie Vanucchi to work with lakeshore landowners to develop planting designs that enhance the watershed functions of sites at Mission Meadows, Chautauqua Institution, Lighthouse Point and Maple Springs. Ms. Vanucchi and Rebecca Schneider, also of Cornell University, held two landscaping workshops for CWC last summer at Camp Mission Meadows in Dewittville. More than a dozen lakeshore owners have now requested CWC's help in developing shoreline planting plans. For more information on lakeshore buffers, call the CWC at 664-2166 or Watershed Educator Betsy Hite at 664-9502 or visit the following websites: <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/shore.htm#shore>, <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/index.htm>, <http://www.bluethumb.org/>, <http://chautauquacce.shutterfly.com/watershed>, or http://www.chautauquawatershed.org/pub2/plantinfo_native.pdf. 🌳



CWC ~ 1990 to 2010 ~ CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF CONSERVATION!



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The 'Shed Sheet newsletter is a publication of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization founded in 1990 whose mission is to preserve and enhance the water quality, scenic beauty and ecological health of the lakes, streams and watersheds of the Chautauqua region by promoting best land management practices and conserving local, undeveloped shoreline and wetland areas. All donations are greatly appreciated and tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Message from the President

WOW! LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED!


As CWC celebrates its 20th birthday, it's the perfect time to reflect on how far the organization has come since its grass roots start in 1990.

With a shared vision to preserve and enhance the water quality, scenic beauty and ecological health of the lakes, streams and watersheds of the Chautauqua region, current CWC executive director John Jablonski and several other concerned citizens – Becky Nystrom, Becky Albaugh and Al Cala (as trustees) – incorporated the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, public benefit corporation in 1990 with the legal counsel of Judith Claire and Robert Van Every. Al Cala designed CWC's kingfisher logo, John Antonevich (CWC's first treasurer) named CWC's newsletter *The 'Shed Sheet*, and CWC began presenting "60 Ways to Love Your Lake" and workshops on wetlands and streams.

In 1993, a seed grant from the Gebbie Foundation allowed John Jablonski to become CWC's first executive director, and in 1995, CWC received its first land donation from Willis Dobbins, now the 100-acre Dobbins Woods Preserve in Ashville. That same year, CWC also acquired 83 acres in the Elm Flats wetlands north of Hartfield to establish its Elm Flats Wetland Preserve. In 1997, CWC conserved 6.2 acres and 400 feet of lakeshore of the oxbow "island" at the mouth of Prendergast Creek, and after many years of work between the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and CWC, NYSDEC conserved the center 1,200 feet of the Cheney Farm Lakeshore in 1998. Since then, and with the generous support of over 2,000 donors, numerous foundations and state and federal funding, CWC was able to complete the conservation of many other sites, such as the Stow Farm Lakeshore (18.6 acres and 1,180 feet of shoreline), the Cheney Farm Lakeshore (34 acres and 6/10 mile of shoreline), Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center Lakeshore Forest Conservation Easement (16 acres and 890 feet of shoreline) and the Chautauqua Lake Outlet Greenway (80 acres and 3/4 mile of shoreline). **To date, CWC has conserved 719 acres of land across the county and 1.8 miles of Chautauqua Lake shoreline and its outlet!**



CWC has also held dozens of workshops and presentations on land conservation and lake and watershed stewardship, several waterfront cleanups, numerous landscaping workshops, and lake curriculum programs in the Jamestown school system for the last fifteen years. With space provided by The Post Journal and the help of volunteer editor/coordinator Mark Baldwin and several volunteer writers, the CWC has also been able to publish a weekly *Watershed Notes* newspaper column since 2004.

CWC has accomplished much in its 20 years of existence, and we are deeply appreciative of all who have supported us. **Please join us this summer as we celebrate our conservation success and recommit ourselves to conservation in the Chautauqua region!** 



Yours in Stewardship,

Michael K. Lyons,
Board President

SAVE RESOURCES!

Sign up to get *The 'Shed Sheet* electronically — email us at info@chautauquawatershed.org



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 24th:
4:00 pm — 7:00 pm

20th Birthday Bash — A fun-filled celebration marking CWC's 20th year of conservation efforts in Chautauqua County. (See page 1 for details.)

Saturday, August 7th:
9:00 am — 3:00 pm

National Marina Day Celebration at Chautauqua Marina in Mayville. CWC will be on hand to answer questions about lake/watershed stewardship and bufferstrips, and Jane Conroe, CLMC's Technical Committee chairperson, will be available from 10:00 am to Noon to answer questions about CLMC's Lake Plan.

Sunday, August 8th:
3:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Watershed Walk — Tour CWC's proposed Wells Bay Lakeshore Forest Preserve in North Harmony with JCC Biology Professor/CWC Director Becky Nystrom and CWC Executive Director John Jablonski. Meet at Hogan's Hut in Stow.

Friday, August 13th:
2:00 pm — 3:00 pm

Watershed Walk — Tour CWC's 150-acre Cassadaga Creek Wetland Preserve in Stockton. Tour leader to be announced.

Saturday, August 21st:
4:45 pm — 7:00 pm

20th Anniversary Fundraiser & Annual Meeting Dinner Celebration — A special celebratory fundraiser and annual meeting. (See page 1 for details.)



For more information, call 664-2166 or visit www.chautauquawatershed.org.
To register for an event, call 664-2166 or email info@chautauquawatershed.org.



CLMC RELEASES LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Chautauqua Lake Management Commission has released the final draft of the Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan. The Plan, available for public viewing at local libraries and at http://www.planningchautauqua.com/watershed/chautlake_mgmt_plan.htm, was compiled by Bergman Associates and the Academy of Natural Sciences with help from the CLMC's Technical Advisory Committee and the Citizens Advisory Committee. It contains extensive recommendations for better watershed management as a means to reduce erosion and nutrient inputs to the lake, both of which fuel excessive algae and plant growth in the lake. The development and annual monitoring of the implementation of the Plan will be overseen by the CLMC. ❁

