



those who lived along the canal, the kinds of mills that operated, how the canal actually operated, and more. Ben's can be purchased at Long's Cards and Books (Main Street, Penn Yan) for \$5.99 plus tax.

**Book Sales to Benefit the Friends!** Filled with maps, pictures, news clippings and diagrams, Leona's *Cascade Falls Scrapbook* answers the question, "What went on here?" and provides a complete picture of Cascade Mill's role in Finger Lakes – *and world* — history. *Cascade Falls Scrapbook* can be picked up for \$30 at Friends of the Outlet meetings (she'll even sign your copy!) or ordered directly from Leona by sending a check for \$36 to Leona Jensen at P.O. Box 181, Dresden, NY 14441. **Please note: A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to Friends of the Outlet, Leona's "favorite charity."**

## Mark Your Calendars!

- ✓ **April 10<sup>th</sup> Benefit Pasta Dinner at Veraisons**  
Please see the front-page story and inserted flyer.
- ✓ **Annual Membership Meeting is April 26<sup>th</sup>!**  
Please see the story on page one.
- ✓ **Celebrate Service, Celebrate Yates - Work on the Outlet Trail April 27<sup>th</sup>!**

Once again, the Outlet Trail will be a site for volunteers participating in the "Celebrate Service, Celebrate Yates" program organized by Keuka College and the Yates County Chamber of Commerce. On Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, volunteers will work at or around the Visitor Center and possibly elsewhere on the trail, helping to clean up the grounds or trail or further the renovation of the "Michelin Building" which is being converted into a pavilion and storage area. In the past, volunteers have rendezvoused at the campus; and transportation to the work site has been provided. For more information, contact Campus Ministries (Jeff Falter) at 595-5300 ex 5378 or email him at [jfalter@mail.keuka.edu](mailto:jfalter@mail.keuka.edu). Please note that there may be several different groups working along the 7 miles of trail, so please be sure to join those who are working to the east of Cherry St.

### ✓ Fish Stocking Set for Mid April

According to Roger Simolo, of the Finger Lakes Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the group usually stocks the Outlet last, after stocking other creeks such as the Canandaigua Outlet. This is done in part to ensure that the stocked trout are not washed downstream by the high-volume water releases that often occur in late March or early April. Approximately 600 yearling and 400 two-year-old brown trout are usually stocked in the Outlet, between the Cascade and Fox's Mill, with the help of TU members, DEC fish hatchery personnel, and local grade school kids (usually from the Marcus Whitman ECO program). TU asks everyone to practice catch-and-release fishing, so that there will be fish left in the creek for others to catch.

### ✓ Ninth Annual Bruce Hansen Memorial Dinner is June 7<sup>th</sup>

This year's "Bruce Hansen Memorial Dinner" will be held at the Seneca Lake Duck Hunters' Club on June 7<sup>th</sup>. "The best spaghetti you'll ever have" will be available from 5 pm till it's gone! Members and friends of the Seneca Lake Duck Hunters' Club are once again organizing the dinner; proceeds will help repair the Outlet Trail, Bruce Hansen's favorite project. No detailed information is available at this time, so watch for flyers that will be posted around town or check the Trail Conditions and Events section of the Friends website, [www.keukaoutlettrail.net](http://www.keukaoutlettrail.net), later this spring. Tickets will be available at the door and are likely to be available at The Nest Egg (Main St., Penn Yan) and City Hill Construction (NYS 14, south of Dresden). This event is open to the public and all members of the Friends of the Outlet are encouraged to attend, to enjoy great food and fond memories. (The driveway to the SLDH

Club is opposite City Hill Construction, off NYS 14, south of Dresden.) For further information, contact Joan Hansen Eldred at (315) 531-8021.

## Fast Forward on Repairing the Trail



*Friends' President Dan Spence, L.S., clearly enjoys a cold winter wade.*

*Rick Kaczynski, L.S., works on the 3D topographic surveys.*

While dollars continue to come in (thank you!, but we're still about \$7000 short – but *only* \$7000 short! – **so please send in your donation today!!!**), work has already begun on the extensive "trail enhancement project" that is being funded by a substantial TEA-21 Fund matching grant, dollars from donors, substantial corporate grants, and volunteer labor (please see the Winter issue of this newsletter for a list of all those who donated in 2007):

- ✓ The required Archeological Study has been completed; and, as a result of the archeological team's findings, the list of proposed projects has been revised to *exclude* draining and rebuilding the trail bed through Lock #17, where intact lock timbers were found buried under the trail. From an "historic preservation perspective," the concern was that these timbers could be damaged by the introduction of drainage materials to the lock and/or by being exposed to air and subsequently drying out as the canal lock drained.
- ✓ Two other sites that are on Village property have been eliminated from the list; but it is hoped that the Village may take advantage of having construction folks in the area to repair those sites.
- ✓ For two sites west of Fox's Mill, the state Dept. of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) has asked for plans more detailed than those originally submitted. Rick Kaczynski, L.S., volunteered to help President Dan Spence, L.S., conduct the 3D topographic surveys that are required and both Rick and Dan have been out doing the fieldwork in the cold winter weather. Thank you, Rick and Dan!
- ✓ Lastly, the state Historical Preservation Office has reviewed the revised plans and determined that they will have no negative effect on any of the other historic properties in the gorge; and there is hope that some of the spot improvement projects, which include bank stabilization to prevent erosion, will actually help save some artifacts. The Engineers and surveyors are now finalizing the precise locations along the Outlet that will be repaired and/or improved.

So, several major "hurdles" have been cleared. Other "hurdles" remain, however:

First, the Outlet Creek is a designated trout stream, so, following instructions from the NYS DEC, reconstruction work that directly impacts the creek must wait till next winter, in order not to interfere with trout spawning.

Secondly, the NYS DEC has expressed concern that several endangered species of sedges – false hop, handsome, mead, and cypress knee – *may* be present at some of the proposed repair sites. These sedges are grass-like plants with flower spikes that typically grow in non-acidic vernal pools, pond shores, and floodplain forests.

The good news is, “the trout problem” can be taken care of simply by waiting. “The plant problem” can be handled by moving any of the plants that are found to a different area; however, work at the sites cannot commence until fall, in order to make sure none of these sedges are present. Work in the Seneca Mills Falls area can and will begin this summer, however, since it has been determined that none of these species are there.

## Geology Rocks the Outlet

### The Geologic History of the Outlet Trail

#### Part II – The Ice Ages

By Richard Liebe, Professor Emeritus, Geology, SUNY-Brockport

(Note: Part I was published in the Winter, 2008, issue of the Friends of the Outlet News)



Retired geology professor, Dick Liebe, maintains a section of the Bristol Hills Branch of the Finger Lakes Trail. Dick's wife, Jan, is an expert at identifying ferns. Under the image of the two hiking boots, Dick's t-shirt says, “All who wander are not lost.”

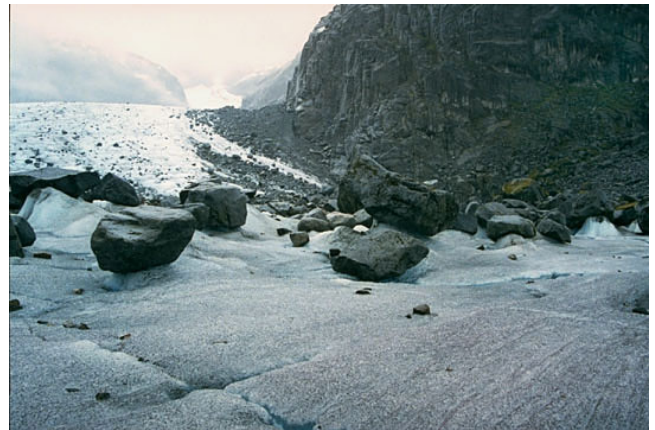
The Keuka Lake Region and the rest of the Southern Tier belong to a geographic province known as the Allegheny Plateau. This is a region that is high, basically flat, and deeply dissected by streams (other than the Genesee River) that drain southward and reach the Atlantic via the Susquehanna River System. The southward drainage of Keuka Lake is confirmed by the Y-shape of the lake, as well as the fact that the valley becomes wider in that direction.

During the Pleistocene Epoch of the Cenozoic Era, more commonly referred to as the Ice Ages, which commenced approximately two million years ago, a mile-thick ice sheet advanced and retreated at least four times through the area. The ice further deepened, widened, and straightened existing valleys, giving the characteristic U-shape to the Finger Lakes. During the retreat of the final glacier, around 10,000 years ago, the ice front stabilized at the south ends of the lakes, depositing a steep linear ridge of unsorted, unstratified glacial till known as the Valley Heads Moraine. This moraine effectively dammed the channels, creating Keuka and most of the other Finger Lakes. In addition, this moraine today acts as a drainage divide separating streams that flow to the Atlantic via either the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway from those that flow to the Susquehanna.

Today, Keuka Lake drains through the Outlet at Penn Yan into

Seneca Lake, thence to Lake Ontario via the Seneca and Oswego Rivers, a route taken by all seven of the eastern Finger Lakes. This outlet was formed when the level of Keuka Lake was much higher, dammed up by the Valley Heads Moraine to the south and the glacier itself to the north. Keuka Lake overflowed the ridge to the east, most likely following a major fracture, entering Seneca Lake near Dresden. This outlet was gradually deepened as the area rebounded following the removal of the weight of the glacier. This rebound continues today, but at a much-reduced rate.

Evidence of glacial deposition can be seen in several cut banks along the Outlet Trail. In addition, many glacial erratics – stones moved thousands of miles by glacial action – can be found along the entire bed of Outlet Creek. To see glacial erratics up close, visit the two large memorial stones near Seneca Mills Falls. Both are affixed with bronze plaques. The boulder bearing a memorial to John Sheridan is a quartzite (metamorphosed sandstone), whereas the boulder commemorating Bruce Hansen is a granite gneiss. Both originated far to the north either in Canada or the Adirondacks, and neither was found down in the Outlet. Rather, both were found on surrounding farmland above the gorge and were transported to their present sites by human machinery, rather than the forces of glaciers. (A photo of a quartzite erratic, the Sheridan Memorial stone, capped with snow, is included in the Photo Gallery, Gallery 4, at: [www.keukaoutlettrail.net](http://www.keukaoutlettrail.net).)



Glacial erratics collecting on icefield in Southeast Alaska. Imagine a similar process depositing glacial erratics (probably chunks of granite gneiss and quartzite) in the Outlet and the lands above the rim when the glacial ice receded around 10,000 years ago.

Photo by Dr. Sharon Johnson, GeolImages, 1996.

## Updates on Other Clean-up Projects:

- Empire Pipeline's Bruce Clark reports that the sandbags will be removed from the creek later this spring. A containment pool was built out of sandbags, to capture bentonite that was leaking into the creek from the south side of the gorge. Bentonite is a type of clay that may be used to enrich soils; it was used as an eco-friendly lubricant for directional boring.

- Additional work needs to be done to the vats and the soil immediately around the vats at the Cascade. Per the DEC, the cleanup crew may either scrub the concrete walls of the vats or remove the vats entirely. Site restoration work also needs to be done; however, this is best done when the grounds have dried out a bit. Expect to see personnel and machinery in the area later this spring. The trail is expected to remain open. Should the trail need to be closed, closure and relocation signs will be posted and announcements will be broadcast on WFLR.

Friends of the Outlet  
P.O. Box 65  
Dresden, NY 14441

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**Spring 2008**

**Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**1:00 p.m**

**Keuka College ASAP Offices**

**One Keuka Business Park, 3rd floor**

(Rt. 54 west of town, across from cleaners)

(park and enter at back of building)

Please send comments, suggestions, complaints, corrections, stories or other feedback to Lynda Rummel at outlettrail@hotmail.com or c/o Friends of the Outlet, P.O. Box 65, Dresden, NY 14441.

*Yes, I/we want to do more to improve the trail and protect the natural beauty and historical heritage of the gorge!*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If you're representing an organization, please write in the organization's name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I'm/we're interested in volunteering for

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I/we want to join/renew (Annual membership dues:  
Individual - \$10; Family - \$15; Patron - \$25; Sponsor - \$75;  
Benefactor - \$150)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(dues)

I/we want to make an additional financial contribution to  
improve and protect the trail, creek and historic sites

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(contribution)

While you're at it, please send me/us:

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation map x \$1.00 ea. =  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The Outlet Trail* guidebook  
(includes 1<sup>st</sup> generation map) x \$5.00 ea. =  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and mail to:

TOTAL enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friends of the Outlet, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 65**  
**Dresden, NY 14441**

Please make checks payable to:  
**Friends of the Outlet, Inc.**

Come Join Us for....



Select a combination of pasta, sauce, and toppings and watch our chefs prepare it for you.  
Dinner includes salad, pasta to order and bread all for just **\$16.95 per person**.

**Thursday, April 10th**  
**5:00pm – 9:00pm**



**Glenora Wine Cellars, Inc**  
**Veraisons Restaurant**  
5435 Route 14  
Dundee, NY 14837  
1-800-243-5513, ext. 302



To benefit the **Friends of the Outlet** and the  
**Keuka Outlet Trail Spot Improvement Project**



With Celebrity Guest Chefs  
**Mary Roddy, Dan Spence, and Pam Thomas**

For more information visit:

<http://www.glenora.com/glenorawine/page/veraisons.jsp>

<http://www.keukaoutletrail.net/index.cfm>



*Winter scenes on the Outlet Trail.*

*See more photos by Judy Erwin on the Friends' web site:  
[www.keukaoutlettrail.net](http://www.keukaoutlettrail.net), in the Photo Gallery.*

