

*A Letter to the Editor of the Adirondack Daily Enterprise  
Published September 19, 2008*

To the editor:

On Saturday, September 6, Historic Saranac Lake invited the community to come tell the stories of Lower Saranac Lake at the Guggenheim Camp. We were thrilled with the outpouring of interest and participation in the event. On Saturday over 100 local Saranac Lakers, summer residents, and vacationers converged on Guggenheim to “listen to the lake.” Stories were shared on great hotels, the early camps, famous visitors, the platform tents, and more.

We would like to thank History Day sponsors for their generous support: Terry and Lynn Birdsong, Don and Dottie Fifolt, Neil and Carolyn Hopkins, James W. Hotaling, Charles Sporck, and David and Holly Wolff. Thank you as well to the many members of Historic Saranac Lake who support our work throughout the year.

Thank you to the many volunteers who worked so hard to plan the event, loaned items and created beautiful displays on the history of the lake, and who made presentations on Saturday: Liz and Ralph Bennett, Dan Bready and Kevin Dickinson, Alix Dame, Francie and Joe Diebboll, Jack Drury, Don Duso, JoAnne Dwyer, Sam Erman, Mabel Foote, Kathy Ford, Betty Hanes, Marion Harley, Joe Howlett, Harriet Jackson, Amy and Peter Jones, Judy Landes, Marge Lamy, Bobbie Leamer, Natalie Leduc, Mary Ellen Marusa, Chip Nagle, Howard Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spadaro, Betsy Tisdale, Caper Tissot, Mike Quenell, and Keith White.

Thank you to the Guggenheim Center for hosting the event, and for help from Michele Tucker at the Adirondack Research Center of the Saranac Lake Free Library, Dave Winchell at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the NYS Adirondack Park Agency’s Visitor Interpretive Center.

A special thanks to the History Day Committee for their tireless work in getting this wonderful event off the ground: Karina Jackson and HSL Board Members Ruth Chasolen, Linda Jackson, and Lorraine Kelley. Thank you to the other Board Members who supported the event in so many ways, from providing financial support to arranging flowers, moving chairs, and helping park cars -- Lionel Arlan, Sara Bullock, Jane Carroll, Emily Fogarty, Rich Loeber, Kirk Peterson, Chris Rdzanek, and Tracy Santagate.

Some would say that the strength of a community can be measured by the degree to which it cherishes its history. History Day 2008 proved that Saranac Lake deserves its rank as one of the best towns in America.

Sincerely,  
Mary Hotaling, Executive Director  
Amy Catania, Program Manager  
Historic Saranac Lake