

LAKE PLACID NEWS

Rotary to release 1,500 rubber ducks down Chubb River



Rubber ducks are released at the Mill Pond dam. (Provided photo)

LAKE PLACID – Debbie McLean finished numbering 300 more rubber ducks this past weekend for the upcoming Dam Duck Race, an annual fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Lake Placid.

McLean and her fellow Rotarians will be releasing the yellow toys over the Mill Pond Dam and down the Chubb River, a short way to the finish line where volunteers with nets on the end of long poles will capture the ducks. People sponsor ducks with the hope of winning prize money, which ranges from \$1,500 for first place, \$300 for second and \$200 for third. Those top-three prizes have increased from last year, when they were \$1,000, \$200 and \$100. There are more than 30 prizes in all.

The magic number this year is 15. It's the 15th year of the Dam Duck Race, and that's one reason the number of ducks was increased from 1,200 last year to 1,500 – 100 ducks for every year. When the event began in 2003, there were only 200.

The Dam Duck Race is a festival of sorts, always held on Father's Day weekend, beginning with an all-you-can-eat barbecue dinner at 5 p.m. (\$15 per person) at Lisa G's restaurant on the corner of Sentinel Road and Station Street. That's the Dam Duck Race headquarters, where families will also be able to enjoy activities such as a mechanical bucking bronco and karaoke. The race begins at 7.

Proceeds from the Dam Duck Race go back to the community. Last year, the Rotary Club raised more than \$12,000. Past projects funded by Rotary have included upgrading playground equipment in local public parks, providing bike racks throughout the community and contributing to the Thomas Shipman Youth Center, Lake Placid Beautification, Mercy Care for the Adirondacks, North Country Life Flight, North Elba Christmas Fund and United Way of the Adirondack Region.

Tickets are \$11 each or three for \$26. They can be purchased from any Lake Placid Rotarian or online at www.damduckrace.com.
