

# Rochester River Romance

October 9 – 11, 2009

Celebrating a 175 year love affair with the Genesee River  
and Rochester's outstanding natural resources.



## Coming Home



Robert J. Duffy, Mayor  
City of Rochester, NY

## Rochester River Romance 2009

celebrates the Genesee Riverway corridor and nationally acclaimed Genesee River Trail. The Genesee River, intimately entwined with the history of Rochester, is also one of the region's most spectacular natural resources.



For 18 miles along the Genesee Riverway Corridor (from Genesee Valley Park to Lake Ontario) participants will be attracted to over 45 activities. With autumn's colors as a natural backdrop, it will be easy to "fall in love on the banks of the Genesee River."

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Visit [www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov) for a complete schedule or to download your "Passport to Romance" and receive special discounts and savings at participating merchants. You may also pick up a "Passport" at any of the activities or at one of the River Romance Headquarters as listed in this guide.

Rochester River Romance is coordinated and sponsored by the City of Rochester and MVP Health Care in partnership with City Newspaper ([www.rochestercitynewspaper.com](http://www.rochestercitynewspaper.com)), VisitRochester ([www.visitrochester.com](http://www.visitrochester.com)) and a host of community organizations. **Questions? Call 311 (outside the city, 585-428-5990).**



### Community Partners

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse  
Historical Society  
Canal Society of New York  
Charlotte Community Association  
Charlotte Community  
Development Corp.  
City Newspaper  
Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery  
Genesee WaterWays Center  
Genesee Corridor Business Association  
Greater Rochester Rose Society  
Group 14621  
Harbor Merchants Association

Genesee Brewing Company  
High Falls Business Association  
Foodlink  
Maplewood Neighborhood Association  
Maplewood YMCA  
Monroe County  
Northwest Rochester Rotary  
Ontario Beach Park Program Committee  
Rochester Bicycling Club  
Rochester Community Rowing  
Triphammer Grill  
University of Rochester  
VisitRochester

## Schedule of events



**Fall Salmon Run, 6 am–7 pm, daily until November.** For avid anglers and spectators. Seth Green Dr. & Norton St. off St. Paul Blvd.

**University of Rochester Arboretum Tours, 12:30–2 pm.** Meet at westside steps of UR Rush Rhees Library to explore the UR Arboretum with noted horticulturist, Dan Schied. The River Walk, designed by famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., is public parkland showcasing 197 oak trees/15 species.

### Opening Activities at High Falls Historic District:

**River Romance Opening Ceremony at High Falls, 3 pm, Fri., Oct. 9.** Kick off the River Romance weekend in Granite Mills Park, Platt St. at the Pont de Rennes Bridge, with Mayor Robert J. Duffy as he announces the weekend's activities and also preview tours available of the High Falls District's architecture and engineering firms. Learn how High Falls is transforming itself into a successful working and living neighborhood.

**"Loud, Bright and Bold," 3:30–6 pm.** FREE Art show at the Center at High Falls Gallery.

**"River of Words," Poetry reading, Center at High Falls, 2–4 pm.** Whether you are a poet yourself or would just like to read the work of another author, this is your chance to exercise your artistic, rhythmic passions. Sign up for a 15 minute slot. Reading times available, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Read one favorite poem or many. Costumes encouraged. To sign up call 585-325-2030 or email swinslow@frontiernet.net.

**Open House at the Mills, 3:30–6 pm.** Experience one of the City's newest downtown addresses, the Mills at High Falls. Guided tours of a model apartment begin at the entrance on Mill St. Applications available.

**Architecture and Engineering Tours, 3:30–5 pm.** See how several High Falls historic buildings have been retrofitted into state of the art office space. Tour Chait Studios, Hunt Engineering, Architects and Surveyors, Labella Associates and SEI Design.

**Mambo Kings Live at Granite Mills, 4:30–6:30 pm.** Enjoy one of Rochester's favorite Latin inspired, jazz groups. (Rain location: The Centers at High Falls). Free.

**"History at High Falls" Guided Walk, 4 pm.** Led by the Landmark Society of WNY. Experience the High Falls interpretive tour with a guide. Learn about Rochester's earliest history and how we became the "Flour City." Meet at 60 Browns Race, in front of Centers at High Falls.

**Buskers on the Bridge, 5:30–7:00 pm.** High Falls Pont de Rennes (off State St. at Platt St., adjacent to Centers at High Falls). A scenic spot to capture the amazing talents of a sword swallower, juggler and more. Free, donations accepted.

**Scholarships on Tap, Beer Tasting and Silent Auction Fundraiser, 6–10 pm.** Triphammer Grill, 60 Browns Race. Support the Northwest Rochester Rotary Scholarship Fund while sampling delightful beers from Genesee Brewing Co. paired with seasonal food. For more information or tickets contact: Shelley. Matthews@libraryweb.org. Tickets: \$25.

**"Renew Your Vows on the Banks of the Genesee," 7–7:30 pm.** Join your loved one on the Pont de Rennes



Bridge (off State St. at Platt St.) for a romantic ceremony in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century setting of the High Falls Historic District, with a 98-foot waterfall as backdrop. Please arrive no later than 6:45 pm. Fireworks/laser & light show and free reception to honor participants. No registration or fee required.

**“Celebrate One City” Laser & Light Show, 7:30–8:15 pm.** Enjoy nighttime glitter at High Falls—the crown jewel of the Genesee River. Enjoy the area’s popular bars/restaurants. View from Pont de Rennes, State St. at Platt St.

**Harbor Town Belle River Cruises, 12 noon, 3 pm and 6 pm.** Authentic 150-passenger paddle wheeler; 2-hour fall tours of lower Genesee River gorge. Departs Charlotte near carousel. Adults, \$12; seniors, \$11 and children under 10, \$6. Reservations: 585-342-1810 or [www.harbertownbelle.com](http://www.harbertownbelle.com).

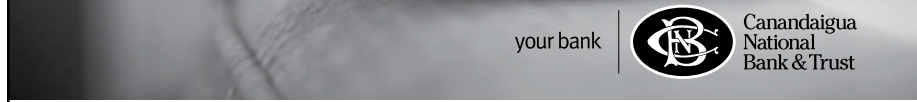
**Moonlight Skate at Genesee Valley Ice Arena, 10–11:30 pm.** 131 Elmwood Ave. Open skate, 14–17, \$2; 18 and over, \$4.50; skate rental, \$4.50. Seniors with Feel Good Pass, \$2.25. For ages 14 and up. 585-428-7888.




**Sam Patch (1807–1829)** known as “The Yankee Leaper,” came to Rochester to challenge the 98-foot High Falls of the Genesee River. On Friday November 13, 1829, in front of an estimated 8,000 spectators, Patch went out onto a rock ledge in the middle of the falls. He first threw a pet bear cub over the falls and the cub managed to swim safely to shore. Patch was not as lucky, as he came to his early demise on that fateful day at High Falls.

# Looking for a bank you can feel comfortable with?

Today, most banks are places you want to get through quickly. At CNB, we can serve you fast, but we'd also like to serve you better. That's why we've created a convenient, yet relaxing environment you won't find anywhere else—with sit-down tellers, free coffee and Wi-Fi,\* coin counters, gift displays,\* and more. So stop in, stay awhile, and enjoy a truly unique banking experience. Now isn't that a comforting thought?

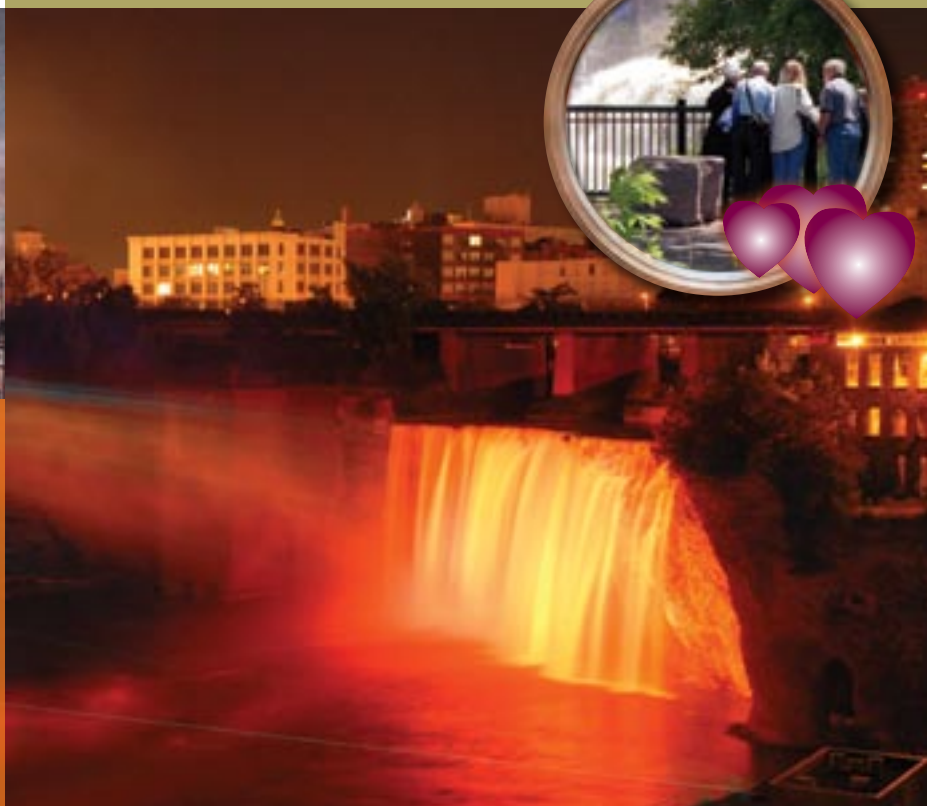


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\*Free Wi-Fi and gift displays are offered at Canandaigua (72 S. Main), Brighton, Pittsford, and Webster Bank Offices. Member FDIC

## Carved out of the wilderness surrounding a falls...



## Schedule of events



**Open Boat Launch (non-motorized boats only), 9 am–3 pm.** Turning Point Park (west on Boxart St. off Lake Ave.), Launch canoes and kayaks; rentals available (fee). Explore the lower gorge and experience autumn's beauty. Weather permitting.

**Durand Beach and Park Tree Tour, 9 am– 12 noon. FREE.** Learn about Durand Eastman's unique arboretum and history. Explore the newly constructed trail along Lakeshore Blvd. to Culver Rd. Meet at parking lot A on Lakeshore Blvd. Comfortable walking shoes recommended.

**Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Arts & Craft Show, 9 am–6 pm.** Lake Ave. & Latta Rd. (Behind Holy Cross Church). Free admission, donations appreciated! Vendors will be selling homemade crafts. Profits from booth rentals go towards the upkeep of the 1822 Lighthouse and 1863 Keeper's House. This is the second-oldest lighthouse on the Great Lakes and free Lighthouse Tours will be available. The Lighthouse Gift Shop will be open and refreshments will be available (fee).

**Highland Park Tree Tour, 9 am.** Lead by Kent Lillham from Monroe County Parks. Meet at the Conservatory on Reservoir Dr. 1–1/2 hr. Wear comfortable shoes. No preregistration required. Call 232–5300.

**Quilt Raffle:** handmade 56 inch x 40 inch quilt embroidered, featuring 28 lighthouses on the East Coast, from West Quoddy Head in Maine to Fowey Rocks in Florida. Raffle winner will be drawn on Sun., Oct. 11. Call 585–621–6179 or visit their web site at [www.geneseelighthouse.org](http://www.geneseelighthouse.org).

**Geocaching Scavenger Hunt in Turning Point Park, 11 am–2 pm.** Turn west on Boxart St. from Lake

Ave., meeting in the Turning Point Park parking lot. Treasure hunting game using a Global Positioning System (GPS) or other navigational techniques. For all ages.

**Head of the Genesee Regatta: Day #1, 9 am–4 pm.** The 2009 "Head of the Genesee Regatta" headquartered at the Genesee Waterways Center, 149 Elmwood Ave., behind the Genesee Valley Sports Complex. The 2-day event will focus on providing a competitive and fun rowing event for Masters, Open, High School, and Collegiate crews. This event will bring people to the banks of the Genesee River to celebrate the sport of rowing in a magnificent natural setting. Public viewing, refreshments (fee), entertainment and parking in Genesee Valley Park East. Volunteers needed. Call 585–737–0069. Visit: [www.headofthegenesee.com](http://www.headofthegenesee.com).

**Columbus Day Parade, 11:00 am, step-off.** Main St., Rochester. Best viewing along Main St., parade review along the Main St. Bridge. Route: Main Street from Liberty Pole/Franklin St., west on Main St. to N. Plymouth Ave. Sponsored by the Columbus Day Parade Committee. Visit: [www.ColumbusDayRochester.org](http://www.ColumbusDayRochester.org).

**Guided Bike Tour of High Falls Neighborhood, 10 am–12 noon.** Meet at the Pont de Rennes, behind the Centers at High Falls. Travel along the Genesee Riverway Trail and by road into the community. Pedal through downtown Rochester, Genesee Valley Park, Corn Hill and Susan B. Anthony neighborhood (completed Frederick Douglass Museum site). Ride like a pro on the one-mile, world-class Rochester Twilight Criterium Bicycle Race Loop. Guides: Rochester Bicycling Club. Free. No registration required. Visit: [www.bikerochester.com](http://www.bikerochester.com).

**Historic Aqueduct Tours, 10:30 am, 12:30 noon and 2:30 pm.** Get a glimpse of Rochester's historic underbelly. Led by Canal Society of New York State, these free tours feature history and insights about this unique downtown aqueduct. Also hear proposals for future redevelopment. Meet at plaza south of Rundel Library, 115 South Ave. at corner of Court St. Relatively steep incline to access the aqueduct. Bring flashlights. No open-toed shoes allowed. Call 428-6755.

**"River of Words," Poetry Reading 12-5 pm.** Center at High Falls. See Friday, 10/9 listing.

**Maplewood Rose Garden Rose Workshop, 10-11 am.** Lake Ave. and Driving Park Ave. Make sure your sweetheart's favorites are protected from the cold. "Winterizing the Beds." workshop will feature local rosarians teaching you the secrets of successful overwintering. No registration required.

**Free Guided History Tours of Lower Falls Park/Genesee Gorge, 11 am-3 pm.** Learn the colorful history of the Villages of Kings Landing, Carthage & McCrackenville; the Freedom Trail and the Seth Green Fish Hatchery. See historic images of an early hydro power plant and industries at the Lower Falls. Tours leave approximately every ½ hour.

**Jazz Jammin' in the Garden, 12-2:30 pm.** The sounds of the Darryl Parker trio amongst the beauty of the Rose Garden. Refreshments available (fee).

**Haunted Gorge Tours, 7:30-9:30 pm.** Lower Falls Park, park in Maplewood YMCA Lot, Driving Park Ave. A pre-halloween scare-fest. Perfect end to a romantic day along the river. Family friendly descent into the depths of the Lower Gorge features creatures and spirits sure to scare. Take the tour aboard a tractor drawn wagon. Pre-register fee: 12 and over \$5; children under 12, \$2. Tickets available at City Recreation Administration Office, 400 Dewey Ave. or at the Maplewood YMCA, 25 Driving Park Ave. Sponsored by the Maplewood Neighborhood Association, Maplewood YMCA and Edgerton

Community Center. All proceeds benefit the Association, the YMCA and the Edgerton Teen Council. 585-428-6755.

**Harbor Town Belle River Cruises, 2 pm, 5 pm, daily, until November.** See Friday, 10/9 listing.

**"Mischief, Murder and Mayhem" Guided Walking Tour of Historic Mount Hope Cemetery, 12 pm.** Meet at North Gate House, 789 Mt. Hope Ave., opposite Robinson Drive. Historian Dennis Carr will lead this special tour exploring tragic stories of love gone wrong and murder most foul. Learn about the intense community search for young Emma Moore, who disappeared one January night in 1855. Discover the tale of Marion Ira Stout, hanged in 1858 for pushing his brother-in-law to his death in the Genesee Gorge at High Falls. Fee: \$4; free to members. Also 1 pm regular tour of the oldest municipally-owned Victorian Cemetery, resting place of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass. Free. Donations accepted. 585-461-3494. Visit: [www.fomh.org](http://www.fomh.org).

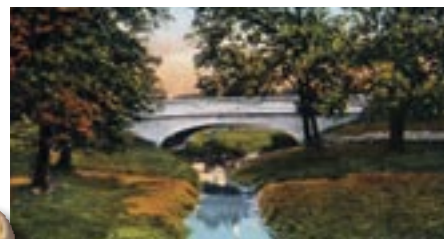
**Guided Walk in Turning Point Park, 2-3:30 pm.** West on Boxart St. off Lake Ave. at the Genesee River. Tour the river gorge going south. Includes spectacular walkway through Turning Basin, Bullock's Woods and Red Falls. Moderate grade changes; not recommended for children under 10. Meet at the Turning Point Park parking lot.

**Mary Jemison Twilight Cruise, Corn Hill Landing, 5:30-8 pm.** Dinner & romantic views of the Rochester skyline and history along the Genesee. Navigate a canal lock and the intersection where the River meets the Erie Canal. Seating limited, preregistration required. \$50 per person (cruise, dinner, one complimentary champagne cocktail) 585-262-5661.

**Brooks Landing Walk and Taste, 4:00-6:30 pm.** Meet with John Borek in the parking lot of Staybridge Suites, Genesee St. and Plymouth Ave. Tour Rochester's newest riverside hotel and adjoining wharf. Visit the University of Rochester's new student housing and the historic Congress Ave. Cemetery. Stop at D&L Grocery for a famous Jamaican beef or veggie patty and finish the tour at Boulder Coffee for a free sample of today's blend and free entertainment.

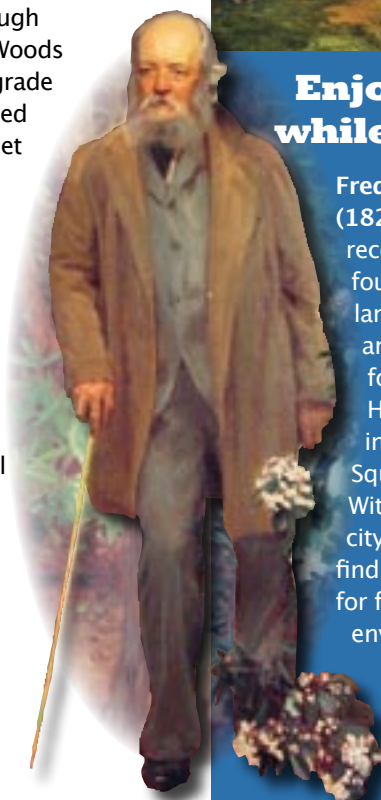
**Division 1 Hockey, RIT versus Colgate, 7:05 pm.** Blue Cross Arena, Broad and Exchange. As part of RIT's homecoming weekend, the Tigers bring their hockey prowess to the "Big House." Join thousands of fans as they cheer on Rochester's only Division 1 sports team. Tickets are available at RIT's Gordon Field House box office or by calling (585) 475-4121 or at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

**"Celebrate One City" Laser & Light Show, 7:30-8:15 pm.** See Friday, 10/9 listing.

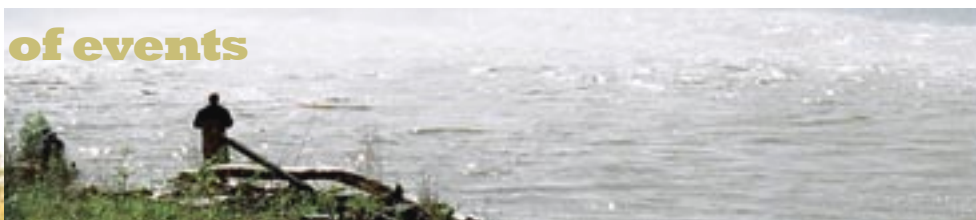


## Enjoy history while you hike!

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) is formally recognized as the founder of American landscape architecture and one of the nation's foremost parkmakers. His legacy in Rochester includes 14 Parks, Squares and Parkways. With over 3,500 acres of city parks, Rochesterians find ample greenspace for fitness, fun and environmental activities.



## Schedule of events



**Open Boat Launch (non-motorized boats only): 9 am–3 pm.** Turning Point Park boat launch. See Saturday, 10/10 listing.

**Head of the Genesee Invitational Regatta, Day #2, 9 am–3 pm.** Genesee Valley Park hosts the 20th anniversary of this collegiate rowing competition—along with other free family entertainment. Free to the public. Food and beverage (fee). Genesee Valley Park East. Parking at University of Rochester. 585–328–3960. [www.headofthegenesee.com](http://www.headofthegenesee.com).

**Guided Bike Ride, Seneca Park & Turning Point Park, 10 am–12 noon.** Ride starts at the first parking lot across from the pedestrian bridge in Seneca Park off Saint Paul St. Cross over the bridge to the west side of the river riding the Genesee River Trail; pass the cemeteries on Lake Ave. to Turning Point Park. Continue on the board walk to the Port of Rochester. Helmets required. No reservations required.

**Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Show. 12 noon–5 pm.** Lighthouse tours 1–5 pm. See Saturday, 10/10 listing.

**“Autumn at the Lake,” 11 am–4 pm.** Ontario Beach Park, Lake at Beach Ave. Free musical entertainment, hayrides, pumpkin patch, children’s games, historic Dentzel carousel rides. “Hug-a-Bug” scavenger hunt; sausage and corn roast (fee applies). Carousel horse carving demonstration by Bruce Fernandez, 12 noon–4 pm; Greece Paint Alley Clowns and eclectic sounds of Commotion, 12 noon–3 pm. Sponsored by the

Ontario Beach Park Program Committee & City. 585–865–3320.

**Displays by the Charlotte Village and Transportation Museum. 12 noon–3 pm.** Shoreline Pavilion, Ontario Beach Park, celebrate the Charlotte Library’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sam Patch’s leap off High Falls, book signing, firehouses of Charlotte, meet City historian Christine Ridarsky and pick up a free walking tour of the old village of Charlotte to celebrate the City’s 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Posters, pamphlets, and memorabilia on Rochester, Charlotte and the 1905 Denzel Carousel available for purchase.

**Explore Lower Seneca Park, the “Flats” and the Harbor, 1:00– 3:30 pm.** Meet in Petten Street parking lot. Join local Historian Hal Schuyler as he guides you through the history of Seneca Park including the Trout Pond, the Zoo, the former band stand and pool as well as the Irondequoit “flats,” Shedville, the O’ Rourke Bridge and Petten St. Free, for more information visit [www.lowerfalls.org](http://www.lowerfalls.org) click on Lower Genesee Gorge or call 585–428–6771.

**Tour Charlotte Cemetery and River Street, 1–2:30 pm.** Meet at Lake Ave. and River Street, explore the historic Charlotte Cemetery, resting place of the infamous Sam Patch and other Charlotte luminaries. Walk down River St. to view homes of former Great Lakes Captains. Also tour the Art-Deco Charlotte High School and see the restored murals depicting early Rochester History. **“River of Words,” Poetry reading 1–4 pm.** Center at High Falls, see Friday, 10/9 listing.



## What's old is new again...

### Rochester's Historic Canal District—Celebrating the Genesee River and Erie Canal.

The goal of this three phase program is to create a vibrant, walkable mixed-use neighborhood as an international destination. Grounded in Rochester history, it will connect to greater city assets and provide unprecedented opportunities for residential, business and cultural growth.



**Family Skate at Genesee Valley Ice Arena, 2-3:15 pm.** 131 Elmwood Ave., Open skate 17 and under, \$2, 18 and over \$4.50; skate rental, \$4.50. 585-428-7888.

**Harbor Town Belle River Cruises; 2 pm and 5 pm.** Authentic 150-passenger paddle wheeler tours the lower Genesee River Gorge. Departs from Charlotte by the carousel. Adults,

\$12; seniors, \$11; children under 10, \$6. 585-342-1810.

### **Guided Walking Tours of Historic Mount Hope Cemetery, 2 pm & 2:30 pm.**

Each tour lasts two hours. Free. Tour the nation's oldest municipally owned cemetery, resting place of Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass among others. See Saturday, 10/10 listing.

### **Photo Hike/Walking Tour, 3:00-4:30 pm.**

Meet at the corner of Court St. and South Ave. by the Rundel Library. A leisurely walking tour along the River banks led by City Photographer Ira Srole. Learn techniques for photographing the built environment as well as the history of the Downtown area. FREE.

## Head of the Genesee Invitational Regatta



For 21 years, "Head of the Genesee Regatta" has been the flagship of River Romance Weekend. Originally the brainchild of former University of Rochester Vice-President George Angle, Corn Hill Navigation founder Ted Curtis and others, the Regatta was managed by the University of Rochester and RIT. Two years ago a new not-for-profit, Rochester Community Rowing, Inc. was formed to expand reach beyond the collegiate community and to return surplus profits directly to the rowing community to help grow programs and participation.

This year's event, held at the Genesee Waterways Center, will feature Scholastic, Open and Masters racing on Saturday. Competitive rowers from high schoolers, Olympic caliber and old timers (masters) can be viewed along the banks of the Genesee.

On Sunday the college crews compete in a unique format of distance racing in the morning (5000 meters) and sprint racing in the afternoon (1500 meters). Awards are based on a combined time for the crews.

This year the event is expected to attract over 300 entries. Regatta Director, Tim Giarrusso said, "Our goal is to grow this event every year and continue the long tradition of excellence that our predecessors have created. Rochester has a great reputation for rowing and a pair or premier rowing venues in the Genesee River and The Erie Canal. We want to continue that long proud tradition of rowing in Rochester and help grow the sport." The event is scheduled from 9 am-4 pm each day. Public viewing is available in Genesee Valley Park east access from Moore Rd.