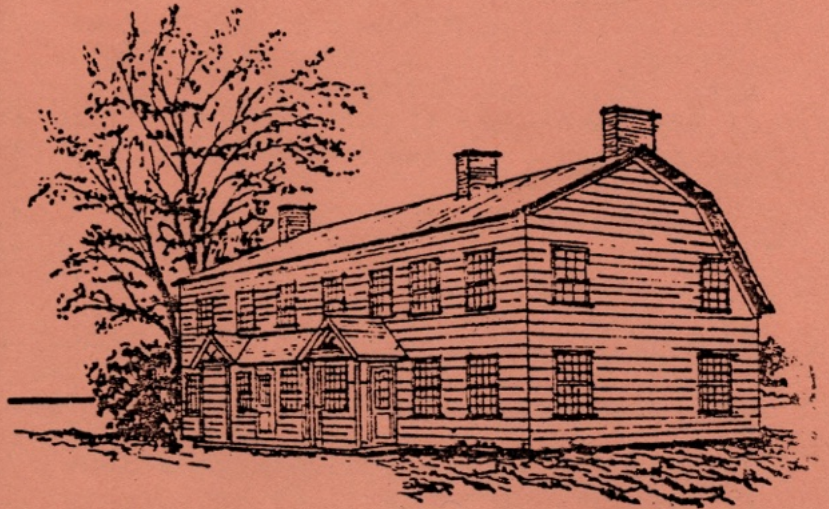


elmendorph echoes

Friends
of ELMENDORPH, inc.
P.O. BOX 1776 / RED HOOK, NEW YORK 12571



VOL. 6 No. 2
SEPTEMBER, 1982

DEAR FRIENDS,

There is lots of news in this issue -- you will read about our upcoming Apple Festival, Shawl Raffle, Fall Cleanup, Jazz Concert, Archaeology and much more, but the BIGGEST NEWS is that RESTORATION work started on the south end of the building on September 8.

Craft Construction Company of Hyde Park has been awarded the contract. We were very pleased with the work they did on the north end of the building last year.

The south end has the most structural problems, but already we can see the building straightening up. A crooked window on the west side is back in place, and support columns are being installed in the crawl space.

The old building sills have already been removed and the foundation walls are now being rebuilt. Some new framing is needed, but most of the posts on the south side appear to be in good shape.

We will need to replenish our treasury after this phase of the restoration is done, so we hope you will support our Apple Festival and Raffle. I hope to meet many of you at the October 2nd CLEAN-UP. Thank you for your support.

HAROLD T. FELL, SR.
President

WELCOME

Thanks and a big welcome to our latest members and contributors since June -- Barbara Henderson; Mary E. O'Neill (Red Hook); Anthony Novack (Hudson) and C.R. Graeber (Peekskill). Special thanks to Barbara and Mary for volunteering for so many things. Our active membership, as of September 15, stands at 406. (This figure only counts family units, not people). Thank you all for your continuing support!

JAZZ CONCERT

Area jazz enthusiasts braved uncommonly cool and overcast weather on Sunday, August 22, to listen to the Dixieland beat of "The Faculty". Led by Murray Van Ness, a member of the Friends of Elmendorph, the band is comprised of six talented musicians who are past or present teachers for the Red Hook and Rhinebeck school systems. The concert was co-sponsored by the Musicians Performance Trust Fund, a fund provided by the Poughkeepsie Local of the Musicians Union.

In addition to the concert, the Elmendorph was opened for tours Sunday afternoon from 3-5 PM, and during the concert intermission. Betty Franklin, Bessie Coon, Cynthia Morrison, Rosemary Coons and Bruce Naramore served as tour guides. The tour was designed to show members the progress made in stabilizing the Inn, and to inform them of the work to be completed this fall.

ETC., ETC., ETC.

ELMENDORPH, ETC. continues to be our biggest fund raiser. Thanks to all of you for donating so many things to our Thrift Shop. Extra special thanks to our shop volunteers -- Elvira Nuccio (Chairperson) and our regulars -- Virginia Apsey, Shirley Brown, Margaret O'Brien, Lillian Gorgens, Norma Liuzza, Mary Hardin, Anna Teator, Betty Franklin and John Fish. Also, the following people have helped when they could -- Edith Kennedy, Richard Coons, Dorothy Maher, Helen Gergel and Marie Batchelor.

Harold Fell has begun to build storage racks for items temporarily housed in the Elmendorph.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD HOUSE?

We have signed up 10 subscribers so far for THE OLD HOUSE JOURNAL, which translates into \$60. for the Elmendorph and a chance for a \$1,000.00 restoration grant. For each \$12. subscription or renewal, the Friends of Elmendorph receive \$6.00. We hope to receive more subscriptions from members by November, which could improve our chances for the grant. If you are interested in subscribing to this excellent preservation journal, stop by the shop or, if you live out of town, send a check for \$12., payable to "The Friends of Elmendorph" to: "Old House Journal", c/o Friends of Elmendorph, Post Office Box 2776, Red Hook, New York 12571-0044.

APPLE FESTIVAL

"TO BE SOLD - AN ELEGANT HOUSE - - - - - with about 70 or 80 very good Apple Trees, the half bearing this year and some very good 'Plumb' trees - - - - ." This ad (which we have condensed) ran in the NEW YORK PACKET on July 21, 1783.

In honor of Elmendorph's once famous apple trees, and the fact that we live in APPLE COUNTRY, the Friends of Elmendorph will sponsor an APPLE FESTIVAL on Saturday, October 9, 1982 from 12 - 4 PM at the Elks Club Pavillion, Route 9, Red Hook.

Lorraine Seeley and Linda Keeling will co-chair this event -- The Elks are letting us use their grounds without charge.

We need Bakers and Buyers -- Use your imagination. What can you make with apples? (Apple Pies, Tarts, Cake, Apple Sauce, Jelly, Muffins).

If you can't bake, please come -- you can eat there and have a cup of coffee and buy something for dessert at home. RAIN OR SHINE. Entertainment included. People are also needed to sit and help sell raffle tickets and various other fund raisers. Let's make this a real success.

Call Lorraine (758-5244) or Linda (758-8279). The following people have already volunteered to bake or help --

Barb & Hal Field, Kay Fraher, Betty Franklin, Mr & Mrs. Adolf Frey, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Furey, Mrs. Helen Hagen, Ann Germaine, Clem & Essie Gouveia, Mr. & Mrs. Alan Gray, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Grenon, Jackie Appleby, Helen Gergel, Jana Silverstein, Gussie Townsend, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Campisi, Dr. & Mrs. James Cayea, Mrs. Marion Champlin, Mary Cioffi, Catherine Roy Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Mel Cole, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cole, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Louis B. Combs, Martha Cookingham, Mr. & Mrs. Webster Coon, Gladys Fell, John Fish, Bruce Naramore, Gladys Boucher, Richard Coons, Margaret O'Brien, Shirley Brown, Catherine Anderson, Gladys A'Brial, Marcie Appell, Bonnie & Dick Bard, Carleen Baright, Mrs. Arvine Bathrick, Kathleen Becker, Virginia Apsey, Pauline Krish, Janet Loop, Dorothy Maher, Frieda Mundhausen, Marilyn Swendson, Barbara Delamater, Natalie Lunn and Phylliss and Tracey Leonard. We may have forgotten someone, but will include you next time.

Bring the kids -- they can dunk for apples.

Robbe Stimson, Executive Director of the Hudson River Shorelands Task Force, spent two hours at the building recently doing volunteer photography. He documented existing conditions, which is necessary before interior restoration can proceed.

FROM SHEEP TO SHAWL OR FROM MITZY TO MONEY

On Hardscrabble Day, the Golden Fleece 4H Club of Red Hook, under the able leadership of Mrs. Marcia Gilbert (group leader), held a Sheep to Shawl Demonstration on the grounds of the Elmendorph.

Mitzy, a sheep belonging to Mr. and Mrs. James G. Brazee of Red Hook, was shorn by Kevin Kelly. The wool was then carded, dyed with Brazil wood and spun and woven into a beautiful shawl. Those participating in this project were Mrs. Mary Kelly, Mrs. Barbara Thompson and 4H members, Sue Bulkley, Heather Mitchell, Terry Flynn and Carol McCord.

The 4H Club has donated this remarkable piece of craftsmanship to the ELMENDORPH for us to raffle off and make LOTS of money. Lottie Kittner will chair the Raffle Committee and is all set to go with 50¢ Raffle Tickets. The drawing will be held at the Annual Meeting in March. Everyone who has seen this genuine Red Hook homespun shawl wants to win it.

If you can help Lottie, please call her at 758-2491. If you are out of town and want tickets, please let us know -- we'll be happy to send them. Local people can contact Lottie or any Board member for tickets. It is possible for us to make over \$1,000 on this if we all work at it. Let's go!

Benefit for...

...Restoration

FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC.



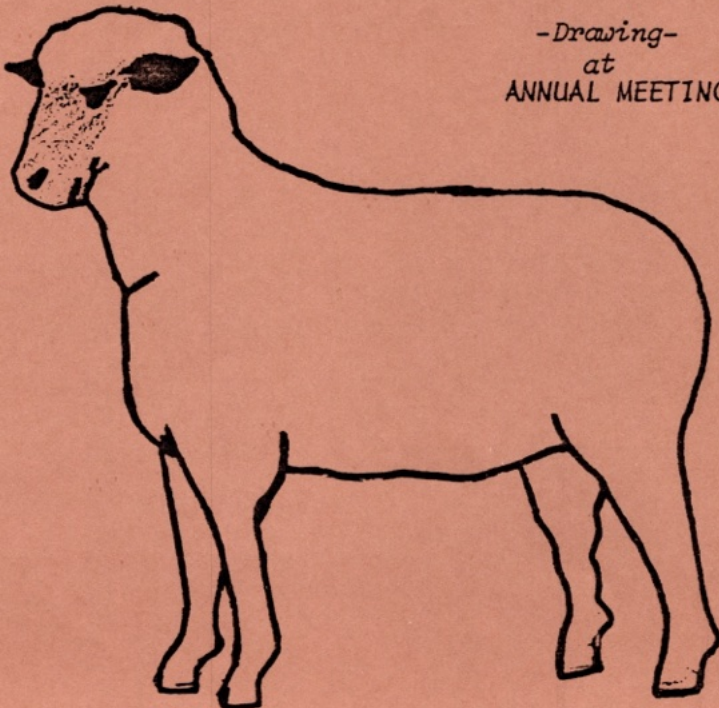
-Prize-

SHAWL woven at the "SHEEP TO SHAWL DEMONSTRATION" at the Elmendorph Inn on Hardscrabble Day 1982 by the GOLDEN FLEECE 4H CLUB. Wool shorn from sheep owned by Mr. & Mrs. James G. Brazee of Red Hook



-Drawing-
at
ANNUAL MEETING

DONATIONea. 50¢
...for 5 2.00
...for 12 5.00



FALL CLEAN-UP SLATED

Volunteers are needed for a clean-up of the inn and its grounds, scheduled for Saturday, October 2, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Two years of restoration have resulted in an accumulation of lumber and other discarded building materials, not to mention several dozen pounds of plaster dust. This material will be removed from the inn, and any salvagable materials are welcome to Friends who can put them to good use. Depending upon whether or not documentation photograph of the interior of the building has been completed, some mid-20th century additions to the inn (partitions, cupboards, bathroom fixtures) may be dismantled on Saturday, as well.

The grounds will be weeded and debris removed from the lawn. This will include edging the driving and raking stones from the front lawn.

Persons interested in volunteering are asked to call Doug Traudt, head of the Building and Grounds Committee at 758-]4]4. Volunteers are requested to bring along whatever cleaning materials and tools that they can -- buckets, mops, sponges, grass rakes, stone rakes, dust pans and work gloves. The Friends can particularly use the loan of several pick-up trucks and an industrial vacuum cleaner. Refreshments will be provided.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Cynthia Morrison has volunteered to put in order the archaeology collection accumulated from several past excavations on the Elmendorph property. Cynthia was contracted to excavate a section of the cellar of the inn in 1980, and in 1978, she volunteered to excavate several test pits in the back yard at the building. Just recently, she tested the area where a pole for a new security light will be installed. The security light has become necessary due to a number of incidents of vandalism that have occurred on the east side of the building.

Cynthia is a 1977 graduate of SUNY at Albany, where she received degrees in anthropology and history. She has been employed as an archaeologist by the National Park Service and the State Education Department. She is currently employed as the Interpretive Program Assistant at Clermont.

The Elmendorph's archaeology collection includes artifacts unearthed during Cynthia's digs, plus objects uncovered at an earlier excavation outside the kitchen and a collection found on the surface of the cellar. Cynthia has begun cleaning these artifacts, which will then be "tagged and bagged." She will also be conducting research on a number of the ceramic objects found in the cellar. The archaeology collection will be placed in appropriate storage and it is hoped that a display can be arranged sometime next year.

PULVER FAMILY REUNION

On September 11, seven members of the Pulver family gathered at the Elmendorph to tape record their recollections for us -- they came from Red Hook, Yonkers and Connecticut, and we are delighted with the information that they gave us.

Thanks to the diligence of Evalena Hanlon (who grew up at the Elmendorph), we have several photos which tell us more about our building -- a photo of Charles and Susan Pulver in the rear of the building revealed a wealth of new information about the cellar entrance as well as the shutters. Other photos showed us when the building had wooden porches and an aerial view of the building revealed how it looked as a store and gasoline station. These important photos will help us to document our history on the building and to restore it correctly.

It should be noted that Jennie Loweth also gave us an Oral History on Hardscrabble Day. She remembered the Jewells who lived there early in this century, and was a great help to us. If you have early recollections of the building, we will be glad to put them on tape -- contact us.

MORE HISTORY UNCOVERED

Bruce Naramore has uncovered a very important new piece of history. In 1817, the Agricultural Association of Dutchess and Columbia Counties held a FAIR AND CATTLE SHOW at Loop's in Red Hook at which the premiums offered amounted to \$200.

Some of the prizes were given for the best 5 acres of winter wheat, best acre of potatoes, best 5 acres of Indian Corn, best 5 acres of barley and best pair of pigs 4 to 9 months old.

So, our building grows in importance, as this may have been the way the Dutchess and Columbia County Fairs really began.

HERE AND THERE

In our last newsletter, we noted that Joe Zalenski (our first President) was going to demonstrate harnessmaking at Clermont State Historic Park's Independence Day Celebration. We are now delighted to report that Joe has generously decided to donate his fee to the Elmendorph. Thanks, Joe.

Rosemary Coons was one of the featured speakers at a Labor Day weekend program held at Clermont. Her presentation, "Early Commerce Along the Old Post Road," spotlighted the Elmendorph.

The new "I Love New York Dutchess County Travel Guide" included the "Elmendorf Inn". Spelling aside, we appreciate our listing as a "place worth visiting" in Northern Dutchess County.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Since we have some room left in this newsletter, we would like to keep you informed about other events in the area that you would be interested in. We would especially like to spotlight two organizations to whom we have close ties:

The Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook (which held its first meeting in the Elmendorph in 1977), will hold their monthly meetings at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Parish Hall, South Broadway, Red Hook at 8 PM.

Their program for the next three months are as follows:

September 28	FDR at Campobello Speaker: Mary O'Neill (President of the E.B. Historical Soc.)
October 26	Martin Van Buren Speaker: George Berndt or Linda Mazur (Lindenwald)
November 23	Responsibilities of a Historical Society Speaker: Alice Jean Stuart -- NYS Education Dept.

Also, our good friends up the road at Clermont State Historic Site will have Nature Walks on October 10 and 17 for children and families at 1:30 and 3:30 by reservation. Call (518) 537-4240.

October 23 is the Friends of Clermont Annual Meeting at the site at 4 PM with Dr. Nan Rothschild as guest speaker. Her topic will deal with 17th and 18th century archaeology sites in New York City. The meeting is open to the public.

October 24 is the Pumpkin Painting Festival from 1 - 4 PM and December 11 and 12 is Christmas Open House from 1 to 4 PM.

IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG TIME

The first Elmendorph newsletter came out in February, 1977, and it has been a great joy for me to work on this for the past five years. However, all good things must come to an end, and I feel that it is time for me to retire. Before I do, I want to thank all those people who have helped with production -- people like the Tripps, Kay Fraher, Mary Cioffi, the Rennies, Lottie Kittner, Harold Fell, Doug & Shirley Brown and many more. Also, Bruce Naramore has been an enormous help in writing articles and writing out labels, and Leslie Coons has always come through when I needed her for art work, as she did again in this issue.

It's time for a new Editor, and if you are willing to put in from 20 to 30 hours on this once every three months and enjoy working with some great people, please call me, so that I can explain the job to you.

I'll be happy to write an article now and then, but I'm tired. O.K?

Rosemary E. Coons

FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC.
P.O. BOX 1776
Red Hook, New York 12571
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

