

elmendorph echoes

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



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DEAR FRIENDS,

Major work has been completed on the restoration of the Elmendorph Inn -- important work, EXPENSIVE WORK!

Although difficult to see from the outside, the work involved extensive stabilization of the building -- the foundation walls were strengthened, new sills are under the house and most of the first floor framing has been either replaced or reinforced. The building gave a few old groans when it was jacked up, but the floor feels good and solid when you walk on it now. Some large beams in the cellar were reinforced with new wood and steel. When the building was opened to the second floor (and sometimes further), it was discovered that a major timber had to be replaced. Other parts of the framing were reinforced, and the blending of old and new wood was exciting to watch.

The chimney on the east addition was about to topple over, and this has now been rebuilt, using the old bricks above the roof line.

The Board of Directors hired Craft Construction Company of Hyde Park for this important job. Not only were we very satisfied with the work done, but we were enormously grateful to find that Norm Craft and his skilled workers had that special feeling for the Elmendorph that we have.

Detailed photographs and note taking took place every day during the three months required for the stabilization.

So far, we have spent only our own money (over \$25,000), which was necessary before we could receive the matching grant money. When we begin to receive the grant money, we can look ahead to the next step. We will have a major membership/fund raiser in 1982 to help us fund PHASE II.

MEET OUR NEW FRIENDS

A big welcome to the following new members and supporters: From Red Hook -- Janet & Jon Alexander ("Hardscrabble"), Isabel M. Brennan, Mrs. Dorothy H. Doscher, Patrick Ewing, Cary Kittner, Cathy Kittner, William Levitt, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Jack McEnroe, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. McMichael and Bruce E. Naramore. Also, H & F Enterprises (Rhinecliff); Merle & Ralph Swendson and Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Fisher (Rhinebeck); Frederick Dreier (Stanfordville); Mr. & Mrs. Stan Mersand (Pawling); Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth G. Lashway (Amenia), John Irving Fish, Jr. (Hudson) and Charles F. Carpenter (New York City). Believe it or not, we also have a membership for "SPIRIT OF ELMENDORPH." We assume that he or she lives in Red Hook.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Our latest LIFE MEMBERS are Miss Charity R. Myers, Joseph Hines and family, and Mrs. Dorothy H. Doscher. One Hundred Thanks to each of you.

MORE ABOUT YOU

Jackie Baron of Red Hook married John Irving Fish, Jr. of Claverack, and has added him to our membership list (that's one way to get a new member). Two of our other members, Emma Kappler of Kingston and John Spinnenweber of Port Ewen, have married each other. CONGRATUATIONS!

We are happy to have back in Red Hook our Charter Members, Richard and Joan Jones, who lived in Italy for the past few years.

The Red Hook VFW Post #7765 has again come through with a \$100 donation toward the restoration.

Several of our old friends have died this year. We want to especially note that Mrs. Herbert Rugman has given a generous donation in the memory of her late husband.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The ELMENDORPH ELVES will be at work again, decorating the Elmendorph for Christmas. Look for the building to light up with the familiar candles in the windows.

We received a letter last year from New York City, telling us how beautiful the Inn looked at Christmas.

BAD NEWS/GOOD NEWS

We have lost three important people in our area through transfers. Nicky Forsht, former Regional Historic Preservation Supervisor for the Taconic Region of NYS Parks & Recreation, has moved to Clifton Park. Nicky was a very good friend, always encouraging us and contributing to our shop. We wish her well in her new position at Peebles Island.

Jim and Cheryl Gold, our consultants for the restoration, have moved to Saratoga Springs. Before moving, they made a thorough study of the building, including interior paint analysis. Their expertise was donated, and we certainly will miss them.

All is not lost, however -- the good news is that one of our newest members is Bruce E. Naramore, Site Manager at Clermont State Historic Site. Bruce has volunteered to help us in many ways (including work on this newsletter). We welcome him and hope to have him as a Friend for a long time.

GREAT NEWS

ELMENDORPH, ETC., our Thrift Shop, has just completed its best season ever! More than \$7300. was raised in the shop during the few months that it was open. Elvira Nuccio and her hard working and fun loving crew are to be commended for this great success. Handcrafted items were a new feature this year and proved to be very popular. "Elmendorph Cookies" made by Norma Liuzza, sold out each time they were brought in.

The real heroes are those of you who donated all those wonderful items that we sold. Doug and Shirley Brown refinished lots of furniture that brought in good prices, and will be refinishing more over the winter months.

Look for us again in the Spring, and remember to call 758-8112 or 758-8604 when you need things picked up. If you know of anyone who is moving, remember to mention that donations to us are tax deductible.

Shirley Brown made a charming child's quilt and pillow. It was displayed in the shop and chances were sold on this throughout the season. We are happy to report that our member and shop volunteer, Anna Teator, won the quilt.

SPECIAL VISITORS

On October 10, 100 members of the Dutchess County Historical Society visited the Elmendorph as part of their Fall Pilgrimage. However, once they saw our shop, it was hard to pry them away and get them back on the buses. One tourist wanted to buy a chair and put it on the bus, but this was nixed by the driver. It was a beautiful autumn day, and we made many new friends.

RECENT FUND RAISERS

On Sunday, August 16, Marc Miller and Associates of New York and Woodstock, held an "Appraisal Day at the Elmendorph" from 12 to 5 PM. Mr. Miller donated his services and we were able to raise money and have a most enjoyable day. People came from as far away as Westchester County to have their treasures appraised, thanks to the great publicity that Joe O'Brien gave us on WHUD.

Special thanks to our student member, Phyllis Leonard for assisting us that day.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

On Saturday, October 23, George Ferris donated his time and talents by showing the silent oldies at the VFW Hall in Red Hook for the benefit of Elmendorph. The laughter from those attending, while watching Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Laurel & Hardy and many others, was contagious. The VFW donated the use of the hall, and gave us a generous donation. It was especially nice to see past Board Member, Joe St. John (up from North Carolina) in the audience.

LOOK AROUND

If you are aware of a restoration done in 1981 anywhere in the Town of Red Hook, please let the Board know about it. We will be looking for such a project for our Annual Award which will be given in March, 1982. The last well-deserving winner was the Red Hook Inn, owned by Holly and Rod Mauskapf and restored by Del Wolcott of Rhinebeck.

VISIT OUR OTHER FRIENDS

We wish that the Elmendorph had heat, so we could invite you in for the holiday season, but even if we did, we would still urge you to go to Clermont State Historic Site on December 12 & 13 from 1-4 PM for OPEN HOUSE. There will be Christmas music and decorations in the mansion. We're sure that you will like it.

The Friends of Clermont were very kind to us this year by donating many copies of a map of the Manor of Livingston for us to sell. We have only a few left, but if you are interested, they sell for \$2.00.

Because of the federal budget cuts, it is vitally important that we encourage the continuance of historic museums and restorations by our attendance, as well as our financial support and/or volunteer help.

ACQUISITIONS

In 1978, we were given two 19th century portrait paintings done by the artist, Edward Mooney, of Upper Red Hook. He painted his sister and brother-in-law, Anna Maria and Benjamin Seymour Pier, who lived near him. These were given by Barbara H. Leadbitter of Staatsburg. The paintings are now on loan to the Clinton House in Poughkeepsie, and we encourage you to visit there and view them.

Irene Pulver of Danbury, New Hampshire, has donated a painting that hung for many years in the Elmendorph. The artist was Serena Martin (the Martins owned the building for more than 80 years). Also received from New Hampshire were the books used by Augustus Martin when he was the New York State Assemblyman in the mid 19th century.

The Red Hook Public Library has given us a table owned by the Hendricks family (first owners of the Octagon Building), a trunk belonging to Robert Chanler, famous Sheriff of Dutchess County from the Town of Red Hook, and a spinning wheel.

1981 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harold T. Fell, Sr.	758-2433	Betty Franklin	758-6474
Frank Nuccio	758-8112	Doug Traudt	758-1414
Rosemary E. Coons	758-6334	Doug Brown	753-8604
Herman J. Gorgens	758-9192		

LAST CALL FOR 1981

It is easy to forget to renew your membership, but we want YOUR NAME on our membership list. Early in 1982, we will have a large membership drive and will include a list of our members. WE WANT YOUR NAME ON THAT LIST. If you have forgotten to renew, we have put an "X" on your mailing label to remind you. Use the membership application at the end of this newsletter.

Speaking of a membership drive, we will need lots of help to mail out the literature. Please contact any Board Member if you can help.

C R N

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Annual Dues

Individual.....	\$ 3	Membership \$	_____
Family	5		
Student(under 18)	1	Donation \$	_____
Business/Organization	10		
Century Club (life membership)	100	Total Enclosed \$	_____
		(tax deductible)	

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