

# elmendorph echoes

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



vol. 3

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may

1979

Dear Friends,

The response to our membership mailing has overwhelmed us! We have exceeded our expectations for memberships and donations. Almost all of our members have renewed and we have acquired about 204 new supporters.

We knew we could count on you! Along with the membership applications, came many offers of help. Read on for some of the very special ones.

With regard to our grant, the plans and specs have been submitted. Once we receive the go-ahead, we will sign contracts within 90 days. We know you are all anxious for something to happen to the outside of the building, but you must be patient. We have to follow State and Federal guidelines.

Spring is a time for Cleanup, and we can sure use you now! Please stop in on Saturdays. We will find something for you to do. We need windows fixed, plumbing adjusted, rooms swept and bushes trimmed. We will be getting lots of company soon, so let's look our best.

We have lots of news in this issue. Be sure to come to the Elmendorph on June 16 (Hardscrabble Day). If you can give us a few hours on that day, call one of the Board Members -- we will put you to work.

For many of you, this will be your first newsletter. We hope you will feel free to share any ideas with us.

Board Members:	Herman Gorgens	758-9192	Doug Traudt	758-1414
	Joe St. John	758-5429	Frank Nuccio	758-3112
	Helen Garlinghouse	758-6925	Jim Donohue	757-4455

Rosemary Coons 758-6334



## MY, HOW WE'VE GROWN

HERE ARE OUR NEWEST MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE FEBRUARY:

Mr./Mrs. Henry G. Abrahams	Joseph A. Hines & family
Gladys A'Brial	Joseph Hixon
Idella R. Agner	Mr./Mrs. James L. Hogan
Hilda M. Aiken	Mr./Mrs. Emerson Hyde
Mr./Mrs. Noel Angelier	Mr./Mrs. Jozef Jozefowicz
Mr./Mrs. Philip Anspach	Emma Kappler
Mr./Mrs. Raymond L. Appelby	Madeline Keute
Mr./Mrs. Lloyd L. Archer	Mr./Mrs. Arie Kossen
Ann B. Arment	Mr./Mrs. Charles Lapinski
Elting Arnold	Laufred Farms
Baright Realty	Phyllis & Tracey Leonard
Jacquelyn P. Baron	the Rev. & Mrs. Roger M. Leonard
James A. Beck	Mr./Mrs. Frank J. Lovallo, Jr.
Anne M. Bennison	Mr./Mrs. James Maher
Mr./Mrs. Alex Berdnik	Dr. Henry Mandel
Kathleen Becker	Mr./Mrs. Harold Martin
Otto O. Berge	Mr./Mrs. John C. Maynard
Mr./Mrs. W.R. Brenzel	Mr./Mrs. John Meyer, Sr.
Mr./Mrs. Fred B. Briggs	Mr./Mrs. Clifford Moore
Mr./Mrs. Eugene Budd	Mr./Mrs. Milford M. Morrison
Mr./Mrs. David S. Cafasso	Mr./Mrs. Lawrence G. Mosher
Mr./Mrs. Jack Campisi	Robert M. Moul
the Rev. & Mrs. Fred C. Cartier	Mr./Mrs. Donald Moul
Martha Cookingham	Mr./Mrs. John Murphy
Mr./Mrs. Melvin Cole	Mr./Mrs. John S. Nielsen
John H. Coons	Mr./Mrs. Donald E. Norton
Irma DeAngele	Mr./Mrs. Michael L. Odak
Mr./Mrs. Salvatore DeCanio	Old Mill Antiques
Mr./Mrs. John Denter	Bruna Pancheri
John Demboski	George H. Plage
Dr. & Mrs. George L. Curran	Nancy E. Proper
Dr. & Mrs. Louis Dillman	Mr./Mrs. Yanko Radmanovich
Mr./Mrs. John D. Downing	Red Hook Businessmen Assn.
Mr./Mrs. James M. Eng	Norman W. Rhoades
Mr./Mrs. John Fraher	Mr./Mrs. Lou Rider
Mr./Mrs. F.W. Galuska	Lou Rider Welding Service
Gidget and Heather Gayton	Oliver E. Rider
Mr./Mrs. Donald H. Germain	Helen S. Roberts
Mr./Mrs. Jack C. Gibson	Bruce Rodwell
Mr./Mrs. Robert S. Gilbert, Jr.	Constance E. Rudd
Mr./Mrs. Albert Gouveia	Mr./Mrs. Herbert L. Rugman
Mr./Mrs. Allan Gray	Mr./Mrs. Edward Savarese
Mr./Mrs. Paul J. Grenan	Arthur Schad
Mr./Mrs. James Gutierrez	Mr./Mrs. Kamillo Schofer
Mr./Mrs. Arthur Haddad	Mr./Mrs. Edward F. Seeley
Mr./Mrs. Clyde Hahn	Mr./Mrs. Thomas E. Seils
Mr./Mrs. Ellroy C. Hand	the Rev. & Mrs. Frederick Q. Shafer
Mr./Mrs. Gordon Hagadorn	Barbara Sheeks
Muriel Hapeman	Madison Sipperley
Mr./Mrs. Richard Harsnett	Eleanor Solovey
Mr./Mrs. Marc Hermelin	Sylvia Solovey
Mr./Mrs. Walter Hess	Mr./Mrs. Seb Sora



Mr./Mrs. Armando Spagnoli  
Jennifer Sperry  
Spinnenweber Construction Co., Inc.  
Mr./Mrs. Judson Sprague  
Oswald A. Stippa  
Stockenberg's Hardware  
Mable Stoll  
Mr./Mrs. Samuel Stone  
Herb Swank  
Betty Jo Tabor  
Lucille C. Taylor  
Flora E. Teats

Mr./Mrs. Wilbur Thompson  
Mr./Mrs. Edward J. Tybos  
Matty Vecchione  
Mr./Mrs. Robert Ward  
Mr./Mrs. H. Law Weatherwax  
Mr./Mrs. Kilian Weigand  
Weiner & Rider  
Marguerite White  
Mr./Mrs. Dwight K. Williams  
Carolyn Yablonski  
Ada Younghanse  
Carolyn N. Zitz

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND YOUR MANY OFFERS OF HELP!

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

We want to give very grateful thanks to the following who have volunteered their extra special talents:

Jim and Cheryl Gold have volunteered to serve as consultants to our project! Many of you know that the Golds supervise State Historic Sites at Clermont and in the Palisades Region. Their donated services will be used as a match for our grant funds, and their outstanding specialized knowledge will ensure that the restoration is done correctly.

Now if that isn't enough for you, how about this? Mel Jones (M & D Painters) has volunteered 100 hours in donated labor (carpentry and painting) toward the project.

Lottie Kittner spoke for us at the Red Hook Businessmen's Meeting recently, and she came home with some very special offers of help. John Denter (Denter Sand and Gravel, Inc.) will take out the concrete island and donate sand and gravel as needed. Jim Flanagan has offered a structural consultation; Bob McCarthy (electrician) has volunteered to do underground wiring, and Matt Sipperly will help as needed.

How's that for community response?

### SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED

Thanks to Bill Crane and Harold Fell, we are now the owners of a large, much-needed filing cabinet, we well as a blackboard and stacking chairs to be used for meetings in the building. These were all surplus materials donated by IBM, Kingston.

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If you have forgotten to renew your membership, we have attached an envelope to the newsletter to remind you.



### MARYLAND RESPONDS

In the March, 1979 issue of "The Dutchess Historian", newsletter of the Dutchess County Historical Society, there was a nice article about our project. Elting Arnold of Chevy Chase, Maryland read about us and sent a generous donation. Mr. Arnold -- you'll be pleased to know that you are our first Maryland supporter. We also have Friends in Oregon (two families), Connecticut, Florida, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

### CENTURY CLUB IS GROWING

In our last newsletter, we told you about a new category on our membership application. The "Century Club" means Life Membership for individuals or families who contribute \$100 or more.

We are very happy to announce the first Century Club Members:

Mr. and Mrs. John Winthrop Aldrich & family  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence S. Apsey  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bielenberg  
Mr. and Mrs. Webster Coon  
Mr. John Fish  
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Garlinghouse  
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Nuccio  
Mr. George Plage  
Mr. Allen Porter  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph St. John and family  
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Walsh

May each of us extend more than one hundred thanks to each of you!

### CONGRATULATIONS, NEIGHBORS

A National Register of Historic Places Recognition Ceremony was recently held at Clermont State Historic Site for the 16 miles of estates lining the Hudson in Northern Dutchess County and 4 miles of estates in southern Columbia County. This is now one of the largest historic districts in the country. We commend Hudson River Heritage and especially Cheryl Gold for the tremendous amount of work involved.

### BE AWARE

A State Historic Preservation Act (S.4616/A.6532) has been introduced in both houses of the State Legislature on March 28. Last year, the Assembly passed the bill 143-0. If you want to learn more about this bill and wish to encourage its support in the State Senate, write to the Preservation League of New York State, 13 Northern Blvd., Albany, NY 12210. They have an excellent brochure they can send you. Mention that you are a Friend of Elmendorph. They know us!



### DO WE WANT IT?

Before we get swamped with great grandmother's sewing machine or Uncle Tony's pipe rack, we thought we had better establish an Acquisitions Committee for articles donated to the building (not the shop). The shop will take the sewing machine or pipe rack.

Blanche Traudt (758-1414) and Elvira Nuccio (758-3112) are co-chairmen of this committee. The function of the committee is to accept or reject articles for the building that related to the history of the Elmendorph or in some way to the history of the community.

They are now drawing up an acquisition policy. They have a difficult job, but if you happen to have a painting of George Sharp or the bar from the Elmendorph, be sure to contact them (wishful thinking). Please do not feel hurt if they feel that an article is not appropriate to the building because if we don't have guidelines, we are going to wind up with a hodgepodge. We are interested in reproductions of period furniture, if we cannot get the originals.

### IN MEMORIAN

We have recently lost some of our good friends and supporters. Christian Vitzthum, Mrs. Ray Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Shaw will always be remembered by us for their moral support, financial support and volunteer labor.

### EVEN THEN, THEY WERE AWARE

Thanks to Wint Aldrich for sharing this delightful article with us. On July 25, 1835 in the Rural Repository, there appeared this verse:

"Penn's Cottage -- the first house built in Philadelphia after the arrival of William Penn's Colony is still standing; and if we had our own way on the subject, it should be permitted to stand as long as one brick would lie upon another. The antiquities of a country are always a valuable and interesting part of the public property, and as we are not yet old enough to be able to boast of any very ancient edifices, that is no reason why we should not enable our posterity to have some to exhibit after we are gone."

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If you weren't at the Annual Meeting and would like a copy of our 1979 Budget, write to us and we will send you a copy.

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If you see Doug Traudt or Harold Fell mowing the lawn, please stop by and says thanks to them, and if possible, offer them a cold drink.

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Frank Nuccio is our new Publicity Chairman. If you see nice things about us in print, it's because Frank is doing his job.



## HISTORY LESSON

We have now learned the precise time that a kindergarten began in the Elmendorph. It was started between April 29 and May 6, 1887 through the generosity of Edward Martin, a philanthropist. This was Red Hook's first kindergarten, and on May 20, 1887, was "filled to its fullest capacity" according to the Red Hook Journal of that era.

In 1890 there was a singing class organized by Miss Estelle G. Platt which had "free use of the kindergarten rooms." When the group numbered 40 members, they moved their practice sessions to the Lutheran Chapel.

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One of the most intriguing owners of the Elmendorph was Philip Jacobs, apparently a no-nonsense businessman.

On February 8, 1779, Jacobs advertised in the New York Journal and General Advertiser the following: "All persons that have any demands on the subscriber, by bond, note or book debt, are desired to bring their accounts, by the first of April. Likewise, they that are indebted, are desired to make payment by that time, or they may expect to be sued, as I am going to remove". PHILIP JACOBS

All of the above new information was uncovered recently by our sleuth, Clara Losee. Aren't we lucky to have such an alert Friend?

## NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the Annual Meeting on March 6, 1979, a new Board of Directors was elected. The Board met later in the month to elect their officers.

The Board of Directors for 1979: Frank Nuccio, Doug Traudt, Jim Donohue (Vice President), Herman Gorgens (President), Helen Garlinghouse, Rosemary E. Coons (Secretary) and Joseph St. John (Treasurer).

Thanks were extended to Robert Bielenberg, Richard Barrett and Paul Fredricks, previous Board Members, for their dedication.

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Gloria Weigand, a new member from Ulster County, is our new record keeping membership tabulator. She keeps track of who volunteers for what, the number of student members we have, business members, etc. It involves alot of detail. Thanks for volunteering for this important job, Gloria.

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Stop in at Apple Valley Realty to get your fund-raising raffle tickets. Lottie Kittner is doing a super job in heading up this project.



## SHADES OF JACOB LOOP

The Town of Red Hook incorporated in 1812 and for the next 30 years, many of their Annual Meetings were held at the Elmendorph. During that period of time, the Inn was owned by Jacob Loop, George Ring, Philip Bonesteel, Peter DeReimer, Jacobus Eckert and David Wager.

On June 12, 1979 at 7:30 PM, the Town of Red Hook will hold a meeting at the Inn once again. If you come to the meeting, try to imagine the first Town Boards meeting at the Elmendorph, when they appointed fence viewers and pathmasters, and struggled with the problems of runaway pigs, bounties for the capture of wolves, school districts and yes, even then, ruts in the roads.

## UPDATE ON "ELMENDORPH, ETC."

Our Thrift Shop has reopened and we are happy to see many of our new members working in it. We are now open two days a week (Friday and Saturday).

Elmendorph Etc. has a goal of \$6,000 to make this year. "With the continuation of donated material, our ever increasing clientele, our good-natured help and an assist from the weather, we will make it," according to Helen Garlinghouse. Don't forget to call her (758-6925) if you need things picked up for delivery to the shop. We are grateful to all of you for your help and donations.

According to Helen, the shop has snowballed this year. Donations are coming in all the time. Special thanks to Nicky Forsht for donating most of her dining room furniture for sale at the shop. (What are you sitting on, Nicky?)

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD AT THE ELMENDORPH

On Saturday, June 16, from 10 to 4, we will again celebrate Hardscrabble Day in our own way. We will have the building open for tours. There will be some folk music, including our very own Joe Zalenski with his Hudson Valley songs. We will also have craft demonstrations -- spinners, chair caning, etc. Of course, our shop will be open. Let's see . . . what else can we do to raise money? . . . Of course! It's time again for our BAKERS -----A gigantic bake sale. Everything always gets sold because our members are such good bakers. Please bring your things to the building on the morning of 6/16.

We are utilizing the theme of International Year of the Child, and are encouraging the students to demonstrate what the Elmendorph means to them through the medium of art, photography and verse.

Photos of local children will also be displayed by Heidi Skog, a Red Hook High School Senior.

Please come and let us get to know all of our new members and become re-acquainted with our old members.



FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC.  
P.O.Box 1776  
RED HOOK, NEW YORK 12571

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