

elmendorph echoes

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DEAR FRIENDS,

On Saturday, June 19, starting at 10 AM, the Friends will sponsor a SHEEP TO SHAWL Demonstration as part of the Hardscrabble Day activities on the lawn of the Elmendorph. The Golden Fleece 4H Club will demonstrate the art of spinning and weaving wool from a sheep shorn on the premises. Special thanks to Mary Kelly for organizing this activity for us. Also, anyone with knowledge of an Early American craft is welcome to join the other crafts people.

From 1 to 4 PM, we invite all of you who have first-hand knowledge of the Elmendorph Inn during the period it was used as a family residence and country store. Members of the Friends will interview people on tape. This ORAL HISTORY will become part of the permanent historical record on the site. Please share your memories with us on that day or any time. Think of what color you remember the building to be, tell us about the people who lived there, describe the store or the grounds.

RESTORATION CONTINUES

We will not have tours on Hardscrabble Day because we are about to undergo more restoration. We are ready to sign contracts for the stabilization of the south wing, and are also on a waiting list for the exterior of the building to be painted by the Hudson Correctional Institute. Look for activity at the site this summer. We're anxious to see the south wing opened up, as it will help us date the construction of this third of the building. All of our restoration grant money has now been received (we were reimbursed for half of what we spent). The balance of the grant money is for the Historic Structures Report.

This vital report is a very detailed historical record of the building with a description of the existing conditions such as plaster, windows, floor boards, lath, beams, mantles and paint and wallpaper layers. Among those working on the report are Herman Gorgens (architectural drawings), Rosemary Coons (history), Bruce Naramore (description of existing conditions & historical research) and Mary Craft who did most of the volunteer black & white photography. Robbe Stimson, Executive Director of Hudson River Shorelands Task Force, has offered help as well. There is no end to the information we are discovering about this building -- How do you like the name, EBENEZER ADAMS? We have recently learned that he was at the Elmendorph in 1787 and we are trying to learn more about him. We know that Ebenezer was an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook, and there is a beautiful stained glass window there in his memory.

NEW FACES ON THE BOARD

The 1982 Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting are: Harold T. Fell, Sr., (President), Herman Gorgens (Vice President), Rosemary E. Coons (Secretary) and Douglas Brown (Treasurer). New members of the Board are the Rev. James Elliott Lindsley, our "Blessed Emissary", John Fish (who has proved his faith in us many times) and Linda Keeling, who will serve as Assistant Secretary. The Board later voted to increase the number of Directors to nine, so that future three year terms would be more easily divisible. Appointed to the Board were Doug Traudt (a previous Director) and Bruce E. Naramore, Site Manager at Clermont State Historic Site. Bruce has given us extraordinary assistance. We are happy to welcome all of these new, enthusiastic Board members.

NEW FRIENDS

We are happy to welcome the following new members: from Red Hook -- Barbara & Edward Delamater, George Ferris, Norma & John Liuzza and Ann Brennan. From Rhinebeck, Holly Brown and Edward Batchelor. Also, David Brown (Pleasant Valley) Charles E. Carpenter (New York City), David & Mary Craft (Staatsburg), Mrs. Margaret E. Hiller (Rennsalaer) and we are especially pleased to welcome the Rock City Grange #1012 and Raymond Ruge (Cornwall-on-Hudson), who was a guest speaker at the 1981 Annual Meeting.

We also have new LIFE MEMBERS -- Doug & Shirley Brown (Red Hook) and Mr. & Mrs. Harold H. Bruggeman (Yonkers). Mrs. Bruggeman is a member of the Pulver family. She grew up at the Elmendorph. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU.

ELMENDORPH, ETC.

Our Thrift Shop has reopened, ready to be our biggest fund raiser again this year. The shop needs your donations of furniture, china, etc. and HAND-MADE CRAFTS are a big seller. Please call Elvira Nuccio (758-8112) or Shirley Brown (758-8604) if you can help with crafts or if you need things picked up.

HERE AND THERE

We are now the owner of a NEW power lawn mower (thanks to the generosity of John Fish), but the lawn mower needs Friends to get it going. Can you mow the lawn once in awhile? Many hands make light work. Call Doug Traudt (Chairman of Building and Grounds) if you can give a couple of hours once in awhile. We are also looking for volunteer photographers to record the restoration work as it continues this summer. We will pay for film and developing. Are you available to take black & white or color slides during the day when the men are working? Please contact us if you can help out. Recording the restoration work is most important. Don Wise, has recently donated some scaffolding for the interior work. If you have forgotten to renew your membership, we are reminding you by putting an "X" on your mailing label. We're going to spend alot of money this summer -- we need your renewal.

YOU SAVE MONEY, WE MAKE MONEY

THE OLD HOUSE JOURNAL is one of the best preservation how-to magazines there is. A 12 month subscription costs \$16.00. HOWEVER, you can get a REDUCED RATE (\$12.00) only by ordering through a group such as the FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH. We will get half of the subscription money we collect AND we then become eligible for a \$1,000 GRANT. This is an excellent fund raiser and a good way for you to learn about restoring your own house. PLEASE come to ELMENDORPH, ETC. to subscribe. You'll be helping us and yourself.

WATCH JOE DO HIS THING

Joe Zalenski, the FIRST President of the Friends of Elmendorph, will demonstrate harness making on Saturday, July 3 at Clermont State Historic Park. Joe will do his craft from 1 to 4 PM. Come meet Joe and then stay around for the other exciting events at the park that day -- music, fireworks, tours, etc. We'll see you up there.

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