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- ECHOES -

Spring 1996

Dear Friends,

One month and few days into 1996 has brought forth in a Friends of Elmendorph Board Meeting a ten-minute span of time of extreme significance and importance where the members present went through a roller coaster of emotions: from anxiety, fear of disappointment, disappointment with hope, elation, relief to (finally) a few tears. During this time span, members were opening the bids from area contractors/preservationists to check on the feasibility of having the Phase 9 work done. (Phase 9 is the completion or final restoration work of the north end Tap Room and the old kitchen.) Confident of continued Friends of Elmendorph support and that of the community, a motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the bid of the Hudson Valley Preservation crew with work scheduled to start on or about April 1st of this year. For further information read Barbara Bielenberg's restoration report inside. In looking ahead, all I can say at this time is that you will have to get up pretty early in the morning to beat me at being the first in line for the Grand Opening Reception we are planning for June!!

It is without a doubt that this past year and the upcoming year of 1996 will be the most significant two-year time span since the formation of the Friends of Elmendorph. In 1995, new significant successful programs have been incorporated for community use in our building. Traditional programs of the past have been enhanced with greater area support and involvement. Also, a highly successful fund raising effort anchored by this past year's Elmendorph Etc. Shop income and our traditional biennial summer auction highlighted the year. In her 200-plus year history, a personal single day record was also set by the "grand old lady" herself as the Inn hosted over 500 people in early December for the annual Dutch Christmas celebration. And now for 1996!

In closing, I wish to thank the very special Elmendorph Etc. Shop volunteers for their endless time and effort over the spring, summer and fall. Without their efforts and community support, we would still be at square one! Also, a special thanks to the Friends of Elmendorph Board. I am very proud to be associated with them. They are a very compatible, hard-working and dedicated group of individuals. I am also appreciative of the Board overlooking some of my idiosyncracies and I suspect they will continue doing so as long as my snowblower is in running operation and I show up at the Inn after each snowfall.

Hope to see all of you at the Annual Meeting for a very informative meeting of great interest and variety.

Sincerely,

*David Brown
President*

FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC.

As of February 4, 1996

DONATIONS

Carleen and Richard Baright
Heinze and Elizabeth Bertelsmann
Howard and Marilyn Bliss
The Bordewich Family
 - Readers Digest matching grant
Arlene and David Borm
Richard and Virginia Cheney
Peter Compo
Mr. and Mrs. Oakleigh Cookingham
Marilou Corrigan
Mr. and Mrs. Delanney
Katherine DePreter
 - in memory of John DePreter
Mr. and Mrs. Terence Dewsnap
John and Theresa Docherty
Tullen Downing
Barbara Ewing
Linda Fell
Ann and Dan Griffin
Barbara Guidos
Betty Hamilton
James Hardin
Mildred and Lewis Hubach
Ann Impellizzeri
The Rev. and Mrs. James Lindsley

Emanuel Mangione
Mike Mateway
Mr. and Mrs. Jack McEnroe
Marie Milbrandt
Lawrence and Eileen Mosher
Friede Mundhausen
Jeanne Opdycke
 - in honor of Carol Brener
Mr. and Mrs. George Reid
 - IBM matching grant
Joe and Ardith
 - IBM matching grant
Mr. and Mrs. F. Carl Schoenborn
Karen Sipperley
Bill and Anna May Smith
Phyllis Smith
Eleanor Spiciarich
Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Tiberio
Douglas B. Ward
 - Johnson & Johnson matching grant
Doris and Ray Wedlake
Thomas West
 - in memory of Marie Barovich
Dr. Frederick Zipser - in memory of Ruth Zipser

NEW MEMBERS

John Allendorph
The Bordewich Family
Peter Compo
Herman J. Gorgens
Fernando and Alexandra Hernandez
Emanuel J. Mangione

LIFE MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Buccheri

Christmas Raffle

We are pleased to report that the Christmas Raffle netted over \$1,200 for our restoration fund. Ann Germaine won the first-prize furnished Victorian dollhouse, donated by Bill Johnson and finished by Old Post Miniatures and Barbara Bielenberg. Herb Wise won the basket of gourmet food donated by Elvira Nuccio and Shirley Brown, and with the help of Mim Brown, we shipped it to him in Los Angeles. Mrs. Raymond Keute won the beautiful afghan handmade and donated by a "Friend" and former Red Hook resident, Peggy Love, who now lives in New Jersey, and Evelyn Anderson took home the enchanting Dickens Village donated by Marion Workman, a good "Friend" from Hudson, Ohio. Our thanks to all of you who donated prizes and especially to all who purchased tickets and helped us bring a restored tap room and kitchen closer to reality.

Christmas Party Thank Yous

- Faith Compo and Barbara Bielenberg

"Where shall I begin" to tell how the wondrous Christmas Open House was made possible by a very long list of devoted members. We had an estimated 500 visitors and they all had refreshments because YOU and YOU and YOU came through "one more time"! Joan Lewis and Mary Cioffi must have spent hours on the phone lining up the bakers listed below!

Doreen Alexander • Marcia Appell • Jackie Appleby • Ilse Balogh • Carleen Baright • Barbara Bielenberg • Ruth Bornschlegel • Alma Bowman • Carol Brener • Mim Brown • Beverly Campisi • Irene Castle • Margaret Cayea • Mary Cioffi • Vera Cole • June Elsemore • Christine Foreacre • Betty Franklin • Ursula Frey • Ann Germaine • Nancy Hetzler • Marilyn Heuer • Esther Higgins • Stanya Jiminez • Edith Kennedy • Eugenia King • Ellen Krum • Norma Liuzza • Janet Loop • Barbara Maple • Helen Roberts • Delores Saltis • Karen Sipperley • Phyllis Smith • Susan Stickel • Liz Thomas • Shirley Totman • Joelle Trachta • Betty Mae VanParys • Betsey Wacker • Coralee Wallen

And we think there may be even more people who brought baked goods that we may not even know about because they heard we expected the entire community parade. Thanks to all of you.

In addition to the cookie bakers, we give thanks to Betsey Wacker and those good people she recruited to represent us as hosts and hostesses including: Chief Greeter Mary Cioffi, Ruth Bornschlegel, Lloyd and Janet Loop, Kate Dewsnap, Jennifer Ruggiero, Janis and Peter Lawson, Alba Kossen, John and Nancy Nielsen, Linda Karr, Eunice and George Myers, Joelle Trachta, Ann and Brendan Donnelly, and working with the children at the table preparing tree trimmings were Nancy Hetzler, Phyllis Smith, Val Borges and Irene Castle. We also thank Carleen and Dick Baright for providing oranges and fragrant cloves to make Pomander Balls.

Meanwhile in the "new" and "old" kitchens, Richard Coons was mulling cider assisted by Millie Stutzbach and Gussie Townsend; David and Shirley Brown prepared hot chocolate; and Joe Kavaky, who had begun the fire in the brick bake oven early in the day, stood ready for any necessity while Ellen Phelan and Lisa Tompkins brought forth from the depths great quantities of various breads and baked goods. Thanks once again to Terry's Country Bake Shop for the use of their equipment to prepare many pounds of bread dough.

Barbara continues...

We are especially grateful to Gary McDonald and Mac's Agway for donating the magnificent Christmas tree which the children decorated. After the party, it was moved outside, strung with lights, and graced our lawn well into the New Year! John Hardeman once again generously provided cider and our good neighbor, Dom Tiberio and the Red Hook IGA gave us the fruit with which we made our 19th-century decorations and the cranberries for the children to string. Thanks also to George Cole Auctions for permission to park behind the Red Hook Office Park.

Very special thanks to our Christmas elves, Blanche and Doug Traudt, who quietly arrived with a van-load of antique furnishings and transformed the tap room and enhanced the parlor with decorative accessories and armloads of greens. Thanks also to Elvira and Frank Nuccio and Shirley Brown for their greens and to Bill Alexander for creating the huge wreath which decorated the front of the shop building throughout the holidays, and a big hurrah to Arlene Sweeney of the Old Dutch Village Garden Club who made her enchanting reindeer and sleigh a week early so it could decorate the front lawn for our Open House.

This year our Open House was enhanced by the sounds of seasonal music performed by some of our talented friends and neighbors. The Red Hook Women's Chorale, under the direction of Kerry Williams serenaded us with carols early in the afternoon. Later, Anne Ojay and her 5th grade flute ensemble enchanted everyone with their skillful performance and the day ended with more wonderful music from Todd and Regina Scheff playing banjo and fiddle and Bob Burroughs and his Irish harp. Thank you all for giving us the chance to enjoy holiday music as it might have been performed in the days when the Elmendorph was young. We hope you'll come back next year!

Acquisitions

- Barbara Bielenberg

Two very interesting maps, donated by Clara Losee, have been framed and hung in the South Room. They are very clear prints of two versions of the maps of the Town of Rhinebeck, drawn by Alexander Thompson in December of 1797 and January of 1798. The richly detailed maps depict the roads, river landings, mills, churches and taverns and many of the houses standing at the time. Although each varies in detail, all clearly show "Elmendorph's Inn" near the corner of the Post Road and "the Road to Pine Plains." One version mentions Red Hook and locates it on the banks of the Hudson adjacent to Tivoli. (See Historic Notes for more on this.)

According to Census and Church Records, Alexander (1757-1813) and Elizabeth Ann Thompson (1760-1806) lived "near Rhinebeck Flats." Their three children were baptized at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Wurtemberg between 1780 and 84. Former Town of Milan Historian, Barbara Thompson, has identified three surveys of Milan properties drawn by Thompson in 1798, 1804 and 1806 and one map of the whole of Great Lot 44 near Lafayette drawn in 1794.

The Losee maps are immensely valuable to us, portraying as they do the community as it existed when John Elmendorph ran our Inn. Thank you, Clara, for your continuing interest in Red Hook's history and the Elmendorph Inn.

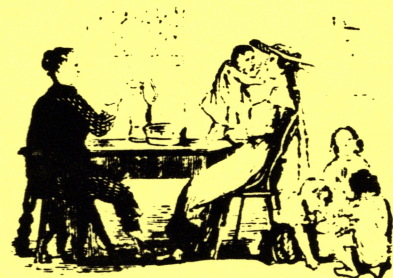
Restoration Committee

- Barbara Bielenberg

The restoration of the Tap Room and historic Kitchen of the Elmendorph Inn is scheduled to begin on or before April 1st. At last we're on our way to the final completion of the first floor restoration. Mason Lord and Craig Marchesault of Hudson Valley Preservation were once again the under-bidders and will begin work on the project as soon as their current commitments are completed. They expect to finish the project in approximately eight weeks so we're planning a major celebration in June.

As most of you know, Mason and Craig completed the exterior restoration of the Elmendorph and expertly restored the parlor and hallway, projects funded with a matching grant from the New York State Environmental Quality Bond Act. Our most recent application for New York State Funding has finally been denied, freeing us to go to bid and begin work but challenging us to pay for the entire project ourselves.

At our Annual Meeting we will be announcing a major fund drive, giving our Friends an opportunity to once again adopt a piece of the project: a mantel, a floor board, a door or a length of chair rail. We're looking forward to hosting our first school programs in the restored tap room and kitchen this June and know that our Friends will want to help make it all possible. Look for a special spring mailing announcing a schedule of special events and fund raising opportunities and help us make 1996 a year of accomplishment as well as snow emergencies!



Egbert Benson Historical Society

- Barbara W. Bielenberg

At the January 30th meeting of the Trustees of the Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook, I agreed to relieve Carol Brener of her presidential responsibilities on the condition that she will continue to produce the highly successful programs which have attracted so many new faces to the Society's monthly meetings. We deeply appreciate the energy and professional expertise that Carol has brought to the Historical Society and are delighted to have her continued interest and assistance. She leaves a legacy of great events already planned for this spring.

We are especially pleased to announce that the Historical Society is co-sponsoring *Museum: Barrytown, NY*, an exciting exhibition at the Bard Center for Curatorial Studies, on display in the Center's galleries from April 13-28, 1996. Curated by Masters Degree candidate Anastasia Dion Shartin, the show explores the past's affect on how we live today through displays of historic materials, maps and works of art by contemporary Barrytown artists. Ms. Shartin has selected a number of historic photographs, postcards and brochures from the Society's collection, including photos by C. E. Snyder taken in Barrytown as early as 1888. A number of special events are planned during the exhibition, including a special reception and tour for Egbert Benson Historical Society members on Sunday afternoon, April 21st. This will replace the usual Tuesday evening meeting in April.

Following Larry Thetford's talk at the Friends of Elmendorph Annual Meeting (see details in following article), the March 26th EBHS meeting will focus on American Indian projects created by students at the Mill Road Elementary School. Last year's program, featuring our "junior historians" was one of our most popular events, so mark the date on your calendar.

As many of you know, the Friends of Elmendorph began as a committee of the Egbert Benson Historical Society, authorized to explore ways to save Red Hook's great historic treasure from destruction. The acquisition and successful restoration of the Elmendorph has gained widespread community support and has tended to eclipse the important, if less dramatic, work of the Historical Society—a case of the tale wagging the dog, so to speak.

Now, with the completion of the first floor restoration in sight, it is time to bring the Historical Society to the forefront, devising educational programs and exhibits and planning the development of the second floor of the Inn to include archive and collections storage, office and library space and workrooms. To quote our good neighbor, Red Hook Town Historian and New York State's Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation, J. Winthrop Aldrich: "I write...as a private citizen who believes in the essential role which local history does and *must* play in improving the quality of life in our communities by helping us all—but especially the young and the newcomer—to rediscover our past for the sake of our future. I believe profoundly in the need for local history to be the concern of local people voluntarily associating for this useful purpose."

The Society's membership year begins July 1st, but if you'd like to be put on our mailing list in the meantime, please write: The Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook, P.O. Box 1812, Red Hook, NY 12571-0397.

***Talk on Native American Culture to be given by
Larry Thetford at Annual Meeting***

- Faith Compo

The featured speaker at the 1996 Annual Meeting of the Friends of Elmendorph on Monday evening, March 25th at the Red Hook Golf Club, will be Larry Thetford, who will give a talk on Native American Culture.

In his presentation Larry will give a broad overview of common cultural practices of Native American life relating to modern concepts and he will also bring artifacts from his own personal collection to the meeting so we may have an interactive "hands-on" experience with Native American materials and relate them to our current daily life. Larry attributes his abiding interest in Native American Culture in part to his genetic heritage from his part-Crow Indian grandmother. He was born in Missouri and raised and educated in Iowa. He is a member of several Native American cultural organizations and he is known to us for his vast knowledge of the field and as a treasured member of the community.

Larry resides in Upper Red Hook and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Elmendorph. He is Past Co-President of the Egbert Benson Historical Society and currently a Trustee of that organization. Professionally, he is a research entomologist at the Ciba North East Research Station. In addition, Larry recently completed four years as Board President of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia County. He is Past President of Columbia county Fruit Growers Association and also found the time to serve as a Scoutmaster in Red Hook for ten years.

We know many of you with deep interest in history will want to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to hear Larry give this talk. Be sure to get your reservation requirements to Mary Cioffi early!

Join us at the

**Friends of Elmendorph, Inc.
ANNUAL MEETING**

Monday, March 25, 1996

at the

Red Hook Golf Club
Rt 199 East, Red Hook, New York

Reservations must be in by March 22nd, so please fill out the form on the next page and send it as soon as possible to reserve your dinner reservation or seating. Thank you.

Friends of Elmendorph, Inc. ANNUAL MEETING

Dear Friends,

The ANNUAL MEETING of the FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC. will be held on **Monday, March 25, 1996** at 8:00 p.m. at the **Red Hook Golf Club**, Route 199 East, Red Hook, New York. The meeting will be preceded by crackers, cheese and punch at 6:15 PM, followed by dinner at 6:45 PM.

Please send your proxy or dinner reservation to: MARY CIOFFI, RD #3 Box 72, Red Hook, NY 12571, (914-758-6204). All reservations **must** be made by **Thursday, March 22nd**. You may choose to attend the program and the meeting without attending the dinner. Please let us know, so that we can arrange seating for you. Please make all checks payable to **RENNERS**.

The speaker for the evening will be Larry Thetford, speaking on Native American Culture.

Now is the time to renew your membership for 1996. Please note the date on your label; your membership is paid **through** that date. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

-----**PROXY**-----

I/We will **not** attend the ANNUAL MEETING of the FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC. In my absence, I hereby appoint the President or his deputy or _____ as my proxy to vote on all matters that may come before the membership on March 25, 1996.

Signature

Signature

Date: _____

Date: _____

-----**Dinner Reservation**-----

March 25, 1996

DINNER SELECTIONS - \$15.00 Per Person

(Includes Caesar Salad, Rolls/Butter, Entree, Bouquetire of Vegetables, Roasted Potatoes
Finger Desserts, Coffee, Tea and Non-Alcoholic Beverages.

NOTE: As the alcohol license at the Red Hook Golf Club is **NOT** effective until April 1st, please feel free to bring your own alcoholic beverages. Setups will be available.

How many? _____

Amount Enclosed _____

☐ 1. Chicken with Spinach Stuffing

☐ 2. Baked Scrod

☐ 3. Beef Stroganoff

Name: _____

Selection # _____

Name: _____

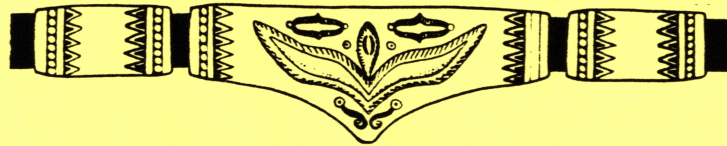
Selection # _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: RENNERS

Historic Note

Relating to one of our "new" maps (See "Acquisitions") and to Larry Thetford's talk on Native Americans at our forthcoming Annual Meeting, we offer a quotation from *The History of Dutchess County, New York*, edited by Frank Hasbrouck, S. A. Matthieu (publisher), Poughkeepsie, 1909; p. 427.

"The last accounts of Indians located in this vicinity were of those in the Northwest portion of the town facing North Cove. There they remained long after it was settled by the white people. In some of the deeds of the early settlers the lands are described as bounded on the north and west by the Red Man's Corners, and, from this, it is presumed, originated the name Red Hook. The land they occupied being hook shaped, and in the possession of the red men, the Dutch settlers called it Red Hoek."



Friends of Elmendorph, Inc.
P.O. Box 1776
Red Hook, New York 12571

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