

elmendorph echoes

FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH INC.

P.O. BOX 1776

RED HOOK

N.Y.

12571

VOL. I

N°3



AUGUST 1977

Dear Friends,

Here is some Modern History on the Elmendorph. On June 7, we closed on the building. Board members cleaned around the property and inside the building to prepare it for Hardscrabble Day on June 11. On June 15, three men representing the State came to look at the building and were enthusiastic about it. Electricity was hooked up to the building on June 17, and on the 25th, volunteers began to dismantle an old shed on the property and cleared brush. Partitions in the cellar were dismantled at this time as well.

On June 27, Phil Seymour worked with his equipment. A large group worked on July 2, going carefully through the piles of materials from the shed, and an iron strap hinge plus many other things were found. Harold Fell carted some of the burnables away. On July 6, Ray Ruge went through the building and pointed out some architectural details that we had not been aware of. Cleanup crews continued working on weekends and then on Monday night, July 18, a large crew of volunteers worked on one of the hottest days to get rid of the remains of the shed. Georgia Coon then hauled the scrap metal away on July 23.

At the present time, estimates are being gathered for electricity, paint, plumbing, heat, etc. Our garage is going to be repaired. Shingles have been donated for the garage roof.

We are always looking for a dump truck to use and a place to get rid of non-burnable materials. Please help us if you can.

NEW MEMBERS

Since the last newsletter, the following from the Town of Red Hook have become members: Mr. & Mrs. Francis Rabbett; Mr. & Mrs. John A. Smithers; Mr. & Mrs. Franklin P. Hart, Jr.; Dr. & Mrs. Carl Stelman; Michael D. Bathrick; Mr. & Mrs. Robert G. Cole; Mrs. Charlotte Thomson; The Handy Shop; Red Hook Floral Shop; Carrie Ellen Burger; Herbert & Gloria Simmons; Helen & Marie Gergel; Mrs. Richard Aldrich and Freda Mundhausen.

Joining from outside of Red Hook are: Mr. & Mrs. Kent Garlinghouse (Elizaville); Robert T. McCarthy & Sons, Inc. (Town of Clermont); Mrs. Sylvester C. Pulver and Mr. & Mrs. ~~Werton~~ Austin (Danbury, New Hampshire); Harold H. Bruggeman (Yonkers); Mr. & Mrs. Louis J. Ahlbach (Fishkill); Mr. & Mrs. Craig Vogel and Mr. & Mrs. James P. Gold (Rhinebeck); Jane L. Pulver (Jacksonville, Florida); Mr. & Mrs. Harold Bruggeman, Jr. (Port Chester); Robert & Louise Pollard (Medford, Oregon); Mr. & Mrs. Arthur R. Wagner (Fresh Meadows, L.I.); Stephanie W. Mauri (Hyde Park), and our newest member, Harry van Dyke, Architect, (Livingston).

We welcome all of you and thank you for your memberships and donations.

Our next issue will contain a complete roster of our membership. We now have approximately 160 members.

HONORARY MEMBERS

James Wood, President of the Grand Union Company, and Stephen G. Young (former reporter for the "Register Star"), now living in Pennsylvania, have been accorded Honorary Memberships in the Corporation.



DUMP TRUCK LOADERS

The following people have worked long and hard mowing the lawn, cleaning, pulling shingles, clearing brush and poison ivy and loading dump trucks during hot, steaming weather, getting dirty and sore, but they have always survived to do more:

Joining the members of the Board of Directors in this work were: Joe, Andrew & Evan St. John; Winty Aldrich; Andrew & Robbie Hoag; Harold Fell; Michael Bathrick; Butch & David Fell; Georgia & Dick Coon; Karl Weyerman; Billy Harrison and Kevin Oliver. And to faithful Joe, O'Brien, Special Thanks for so much.

EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS

To ROBERT T. MCCARTHY for hooking electricity to the building on June 17 and checking the wiring for us. We are most fortunate to have such a competent new member who likes old buildings.

To BARD COLLEGE for their assistance.

To GEORGIA & DICK COON for hauling alot of "junk" away.

To ROBERT BELCHER who operated heavy duty equipment after hours, donating his time.

To GUS SHAW, who mowed the tall grass around the building with his special equipment so that we could attack it with our small mowers later.

To PHIL SEYMOUR who pulled a tree down that was growing into the house and used his heavy duty equipment also. Phil has offered to let us use his scaffolding when we need it.

To WILLIAM J. WALSH, our attorney, who during the final days of the closing, kept in constant communication with the Grand Union and pushed things through on time.

HARDSCRABBLE DAY

A great many people came to visit us on June 11. We could only show a small area, as we had just closed on the building, but the response from those who came was encouraging. On that morning, the windows were unboarded for the first time in many years. The sale of refreshments was excellent. Thanks to all of you who donated cider, lemonade or cookies. Also, much thanks to those who gave their time at the building that day.

GIRL SCOUTS VISIT

On July 28, we had more visitors. 18 Girl Scouts from all over the country came to see us and enjoyed a look at the past.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Barbara Bielenberg has completed the photographic documentation of the outside of the building that had been suggested by people representing the State.

John Losee has been snapping away photos of the work crews.

BICENTENNIAL BALL

On October 15, there will be a Ball held at Mills Mansion in Staatsburg to commemorate the British burning at Barrytown. All proceeds from the Ball and Journal will go to the Friends of Elmendorph. This event is sponsored by the Red Hook/Tivoli Bicentennial Ball Committee.

Those of you who can go will have a wonderful evening in an elegant setting, and at the same time will



BICENTENNIAL BALL (cont.)

be helping us. Tickets are \$12.50 per person. Send your requests to "Ball", RD 1, Box 396, Red Hook.

LAWN SALE

We have umpteen canning jars in the building, as well as many other items that were left there. We would like to hold a lawn sale soon and hope that you would contribute used items for the sale. Please do not bring any clothing. We will let you know of the exact date by phone.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Please be aware that the State will have a Bond issue on the November ballot to support Parks and Historic Sites.

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Rockefeller, a Charter Member and a strong supporter, died recently. We will miss her encouragement.

DONATIONS

There have been many donations from non-members. Rather than list them, we are sending this newsletter to them and again express our appreciation.

We were very pleased with a generous donation from the VFW Post #7765 of Red Hook.

CAPTAIN JOHN MARTIN'S CHEST

On Hardscrabble Day, William Bentley of Elizaville, gave us a most outstanding donation. He had in his possession a chest that had been in the attic of the building for many generations. We have learned that this belonged to Captain John Martin, son of Gottlop Martin. It is an 18th century chest with marvelous strap hinges and stencil work. It needs restoration but is a proud addition to the house and we are especially pleased that it has come home again.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

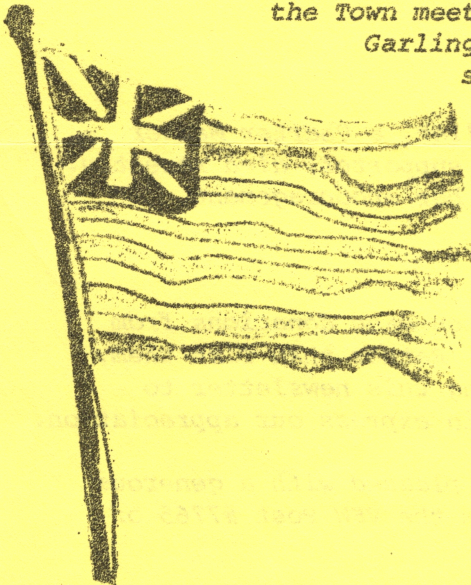
On July 12, an old-fashioned Town Board meeting was held in the original tavern room. The Town Board had met at the Inn for many years after 1812. This meeting was so well-attended, that many people had to stand. The Inn was decorated with antique furnishings for this occasion. The Board sat in Windsor chairs at an old plank table. Minutes from 1813 were read. Later refreshments were served. It was a thrill to see the lights on and the building in use.

The Town will have another meeting at the Inn on October 11. Don't miss this one!

GRAND UNION FLAG

The Elks Club had loaned us the "Grand Union Flag" for the Town meeting. Helen Garlinghouse has since

purchased a similar flag and has donated it, so now we have our own to use.



WE HAVE AN ARCHITECT

We have acquired the services of Raymond Ruge, A.I.A. from Cornwall-on-Hudson. Ray has a special talent in restoring old buildings and has just recently received an award for all the work that he has been doing in Hudson to bring that city back to life. Ray will work closely with us and Herman Gorgens will do the drawings. The Board of Directors feels that we are most fortunate to have an architect who is deeply involved in historical restoration to guide us.

RECIPIES WANTED

The Fund Raising Committee has suggested that all of you send in some recipes. They will put them together in a very attractive form for sale. We would like to hear from those of you outside of Red Hook and in other States as well with regard to your favorites. We will use your name on the recipe. Please send these to P.O. Box 1776, Red Hook, NY 12571.

BUTTERNUT TREES



We have discovered that we have a Butternut Grove next to the building. Helen Garlinghouse and Bob Bielenberg have been working on this area and we hope to have a small picnic area there by next Spring. Let them know if you want to help.

ART WORK

Our art work for this issue has been donated by a local High School student. You may already know that Herman Gorgens is responsible for the sketch of the Elmendorph.

THANK YOU, JEAN RICHARDS

For your very kind Editorial in the "Gazette-Advertiser" recently. Jean is the Publisher of this newspaper.

HEAR YE!

HEAR YE!

WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE MANY MEMBERS WITH IDEAS WHO ARE RARIN' TO GO. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

THEREFORE, WE WILL HOLD A BRAINSTORMING MEETING ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT 7:30 PM AT THE ELMENDORPH.

WE CAN DIVIDE INTO SMALL GROUPS IN DIFFERENT ROOMS AND THEN POOL OUR INFORMATION. THINK OF IDEAS FOR FUND RAISING, MEMBERSHIP, RESTORATION, GROUNDS, GARDENS, ETC.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR TO THE ELMENDORPH, OR YOU WON'T HAVE A SEAT. THIS IS NOT A BUSINESS MEETING -- JUST A GET TOGETHER TO POOL IDEAS.

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE SEND US YOUR SUGGESTIONS. WE WANT YOUR IDEAS!

PASS THIS ON TO A FRIEND

Charter Member _____
New Member _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone # _____ Date _____ 1977
Address _____ Zip _____

Individual \$ 3
Family \$ 5
Student (under 18) \$ 1
Organizations \$ 10

Membership \$ _____
Donation \$ _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____

I am available as a volunteer: Phone _____ Membership _____ Typing _____
Fund Raising _____ Research _____ Clean up _____
Restoration _____ Skill _____
plumbing, carpentry, sewing, etc.

HEAR YE!

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NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Red Hook, N.Y. 12571