

FLY CREEKER



NEWSLETTER OF THE

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 87, Fly Creek, NY 13337



VOLUME ⁵4, ISSUE ¹4 * WINTER, 1993
* AUTUMN, 1992

Editor: Bill Deane. Associates: Carol Mezger, Paula Schaeffer.

OH, GIVE US A HOME...

The Fly Creek Area Historical Society (FCAHS) has been operating for some $3\frac{1}{2}$ years now, and is beginning to accumulate documents and artifacts. The Fly Creek United Methodist Church has graciously allowed us to use its Fellowship Hall for our monthly meetings, and Dave and Scotty Baker of the Schoolhouse furniture store have volunteered space for our collections. However, the FCAHS will eventually need a permanent home. Musing on this subject brought out the poet in our President:

Does "made in Fly Creek" make you proud of your own?
The facts are, to preserve them, we need a home...
A home to meet in, to store and display
Those mementoes of Fly Creek, before they're sent away.
We have two hundred years of history from which to learn
Of the lives, the works, and the hopes for which they yearned.
If you pick a row of peas without a backward glance,
You will miss the total story that those hidden ones enhance,
And the future goes on stumbling because they didn't know
Of the lessons learned in trial, from out the long ago.
So what do Fly Creekers offer, to those who would preserve;
Things of the past and present-- should they be conserved?
A home-- call it more than a dream-- with volunteers willing,
Would be to all Fly Creekers, and our by-laws, fulfilling.

(Submitted by Peter L. Martin)

NEWS BRIEFS



* Please note the new address of the FCAHS: P.O. Box 87, Fly Creek, NY 13337.

* The sandwich-board sign that stands outside the Fly Creek Church, reminding passersby of FCAHS meetings, was prepared by Carol and Bernard Mezger.

* The FCAHS has had ten different post cards prepared, each showing a different Fly Creek area scene of the past or present. The cards, which go on sale during the Applefest Weekend (October 17-18, 1992), sell for 75¢ each, or a set of all ten for \$7.00. For mail-order requests, please add \$1.00 per set for postage and handling.

* The FCAHS extends its appreciation to three outgoing officers: Secretary Carol Mezger, Treasurer Maxine Potts, and Trustee Margaret Jensen. Special thanks go to Maxine, who kept our books balanced for the first three years of our being.

* Around the 1930s or '40s, Oneonta's Jerry Wilson used to come to Fly Creek to hold "Hymn-Sings" at the Methodist Church. Florence Michaels asks that anyone remembering these to contact her (c/o the FCAHS) with recollections and details.

* The editor is pleased to report that, for the first time since the Summer, 1990 edition, this Fly Creeker contains no obituaries. Keep up the good work!

HELP WANTED

The FCAHS has a number of efforts in progress for which help is eagerly solicited. Among these are the following:

Space Committee-- interview-visits to ten small local museums, seeking information on operations and problems. Dot Martin and Freida Snyder have completed five of these.

Research summary-- listing research projects relating to the Fly Creek area, done by our members and/or housed at the NYSHA Library, to prevent duplication of effort.

House histories-- tracing dates and names of owners of area houses, from the original proprietors to the present ones, via Town Clerk records. Pete and Dot Martin have completed 30 of these.

Building histories-- lists compiled on farms of the 1950s (by Freida and Art Snyder), businesses (Elaine Harvey), and stores (Florence Michaels) of the area. Ads, pictures, clippings, etc. are sought to help complete these files.

Historic Building Committee-- develop a pictorial file of historically-significant area structures, working with the Publications Committee to prepare a brochure.

Publications Committee-- preparation of quarterly newsletter, along with the long-term goal of a Society research journal. Membership input is needed here!

Community Sing-- organization of this annual event, done by our Program Committee.

Membership-- we need to attract the interest and support of more young people in the community.

(Submitted by Peter Martin)

OFFICERS ELECTED

The Annual Meeting was held on August 26, preceded by a pot-luck dinner. Annual reports were read by committee chairpersons, and a slate of officers was chosen. Peter Martin and Florence Michaels were reelected as President and Vice-President, respectively. Paula Schaeffer was nominated as the new Secretary, with Marie King serving as interim Secretary during Paula's absence. Alice Lavrinos became the new Treasurer, while Ed Thorne was elected as a Trustee. In addition, Elaine Harvey and Freida Snyder were named as co-chairpersons of the Programs Committee, and Bill Deane was retained as chairman of the Publicity/Newsletter Committee.

The current slate of officers, including the year each term expires, is as follows:

President:	Peter Martin	(1993)
Vice-President:	Florence Michaels	(1993)
Secretary:	Paula Schaeffer	(1993)
Treasurer:	Alice Lavrinos	(1995)
Trustees:	Alice Lavrinos	(1993)
	Elaine Harvey	(1994)
	Ed Thorne	(1995)

(Submitted by George Badgley)

der an annual report based on the fiscal year.

Section 5. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the society. It shall select a nominating committee pursuant to the constitution. The Board of Trustees shall decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be acted upon at a meeting of the society, and perform such other functions as designated in the by-laws or otherwise assigned to it.

At any meeting of the Board of Trustees four members shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Trustees shall select its own chairperson. The Board of Trustees, through the chairperson, shall render an annual report at each annual meeting.

Article IV
Committees

Section 1. The society shall have the following standing committees:

1. Library Committee-- responsible for collecting, cataloging, caring for, arranging, and repairing books, manuscripts, newspapers, artifacts, relics, and other historical material.
2. Publications Committee-- responsible for finding ways and means for establishing joint or individual research studies; providing newsletters to members; and for publicity.
3. Program Committee-- responsible for arranging suitable programs.
4. Membership Committee-- responsible for membership drives.
5. The president shall appoint members and chairmen of the standing committees.
6. Other committees, standing or special, may be appointed by the president as directed by the society or by the Board of Trustees, except that the nominating committee shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

Article V
Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall govern the proceedings of the society except in such cases as are governed by the constitution and by-laws.

Article VI
Amendment to the By-Laws

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting; or they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION****1992-93
FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 87, Fly Creek, NY 13337

Name: _____ Renewal New Membership

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Check applicable box(es):

- Please register me as a member of the FCAHS. Enclosed is a check for \$5.00.
- Please register my spouse and me to a family membership. Enclosed is a check for \$8.00.
- Please accept my enclosed donation, in the amount of \$ _____ (minimum \$10), and enrol (me/us) as a contributing/sustaining member(s).

MEETING REPORT

Ruth All will be the guest speaker at the next FCAHS meeting, Wednesday, October 28. She will discuss the centennial anniversary of Pomona Grange. On November 18, the year's last meeting, Bruce Andrews will speak about interesting epitaphs on the tombstones at local cemeteries. FCAHS meetings are open to the public, and are held in the basement of the Fly Creek church. They begin at 7:00 P.M., and refreshments are served.

Recent meetings of the Society were held on July 22, August 26, and September 23, 1992. The July meeting featured a reading of "Old Country Poetry" by George Badgley. Many of the poems were about the Fly Creek area and/or written by local poets. Also during this meeting, Lady Ostapeck reported on the restoration of the Fly Creek Hotel.

The August meeting is reported on elsewhere in this newsletter.

During the September meeting, Florence Michaels shared "Gleanings from Clippings", from scrapbooks of 1899-1906 clippings of area newspapers. Among the interesting items were a report of the New York State Governor (Theodore Roosevelt) attending a fair in Cooperstown in 1899. Even the obituaries were fascinating, as we learned of some of the bizarre causes of death prevalent a century ago.



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Post Office Box # 87

Fly Creek, New York 1 3 3 3 7

