

FLY CREEKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE

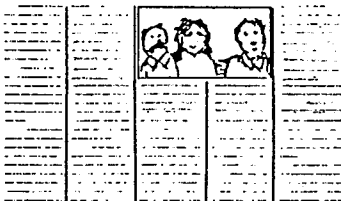
FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 87, Fly Creek, NY 13337

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4 * AUTUMN, 1992

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



NEWS BRIEFS



* Jayne Aufmuth has donated an unusual document to the Fly Creek Area Historical Society (FCAHS). It is an invitation, printed in color on a 2½" by 4" card, and encased in durable plastic. It announces a Harvest Party at W. N. Flansburgh's Hotel in Fly Creek, NY, on August 7, 1885. The cost was \$1.50, which included the "Good Music in Attendance... Yourself and Ladies Cordially Invited." Florence Michaels believes that Flansburgh's became the Fly Creek Hotel, at the corner of Schoolhouse Road and Route 28,

which is currently being renovated by Bruce Ostapeck. Can anyone inform us about Flansburgh's Hotel or this invitation?

* This year's meetings of the FCAHS are scheduled as follow: January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25 (Annual Meeting, preceded by a covered-dish supper), September 22, October 27, and November 17. Note these dates on your 1993 calendar now, so you don't forget. Meetings begin at 7 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall (basement) of the Fly Creek Church.

* Anyone ever having any submissions, news items, corrections, or criticism for or about the Fly Creeker is asked to bring them to the attention of the Editor at P.O. Box 47, Fly Creek, NY 13337; telephone (607) 547-5786. Incidentally, the Newsletter Committee will hold its annual meeting sometime in March; please contact Bill Deane if you are interested in participating.

* Maxine Potts and Carol Mezger took a trip to the Hanford Mills museum to examine a metal lathe manufactured by O. Badger's Furnace & Machine Shop in Fly Creek. They returned with a machinery catalog containing a photo of the lathe, and gave the booklet to the Society.

* Jessie Ravage has been working with the Society as a paid consultant, helping us to set up an Accessioning system for acquisitions by and donations to the FCAHS.

* The FCAHS welcomes its newest members: Andy & Beth Bergfjord, Ralph & Barbara Chamberlain, Margaret Elkan, and Joe & Bobbie Morley.

* No further newsletters will be sent to those whose dues are in arrears. A list of paid-up members appears on the following page.



FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP, 1992-93

Listed below are the 124 members paid up as of January 4. Charter members are denoted with an asterisk. If there are any misspellings or omissions, please bring them to our attention. If your name is not listed, it is because our records indicate that your 1992-93 dues-- payable last August 1-- have not been received. Please use the application on the opposite page to correct this oversight.

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| *ATWELL, Dr. James AUFMUTH, Jayne | *LAVRINOS, Nicholas & Alice LEVINE, Mr. & Mrs. Harry |
| *BADGLEY, Mr. & Mrs. George BAKER, Mr. & Mrs. David BAKER, Mable | LUDLAM, Mr. & Mrs. Henry LYONS, Mr. & Mrs. Irving MacDOUGALL, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh |
| *BALDWIN, Rev. Kenneth BARNOWSKY, Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence BERGFJORD, Andy & Beth | MACKIE, Dr. & Mrs. Robert |
| *BERTINO, Dr. Joseph BLANCHARD, Sally | *MARTIN, Peter & Dorothy McLEAN, Mrs. Carolyn |
| BOUTON, Ronald & Carol BOYD, Mr. & Mrs. Louie, Sr. BOYD, Spike & Joyce | *MEZGER, Bernard & Carol MICHAELS, Charles & Barbara |
| *BRESEE, Philip & Ruth *BURNHAM, Garfield & Catherine | *MICHAELS, Florence MORLEY, Joe & Bobbie MUMFORD, Mr. & Mrs. Rolan MURDOCK, Robert & Wanda NEFF, Mrs. Richard |
| CAMPBELL, Bernice B. CAMPBELL, Grant CARR, Richard D. CHAMBERLAIN, Ralph & Barbara CLARK, Mr. & Mrs. Francis | NOFZIGER, Dr. Anne *NORRIS, Mr. & Mrs. Robert OSTAPECK, Bruce & Aida OSTAPECK, Lady *PLATT, Alice |
| *CURLIS, Irwin & Virginia *DAY, Mr. & Mrs. Irving, III *DEANE, Bill & Pam *DEVENPECK, Hattie DODGE, Martha | *POTTS, Maxine REILLY, Edward REZEN, Paul & Sarah *SCHAEFFER, William & Paula *SELAN, Inabelle |
| DRUMM, Suzanne *ELDRIDGE, Margaret ELKAN, Margaret *FINCH, John & Jean FOUTCH, Maude | SHARPE, Stuart & Bonnie SITTLER, Lester & Karen SMALE, Capt. Gordon SMITH, Zoe Potts *SNYDER, Arthur & Freida |
| HANEY, Craig HANOR, Katherine *HARVEY, Merritt & Elaine HECOX, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene JENKINS, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur | TALBOT, William & Evelyn THORNE, Edwin & Joyce TRINKAUS, John VREDENBURGH, David *WALKER, Mildred |
| *JENSEN, Margaret KEATING, Mr. & Mrs. William KNAPP, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest KUZMINSKI, Adrian & Antoinette LAUT, Dorothy P. | WHITE, Helen M. *WINNIE, Ernest & Gerda *WOOD, Betty C. *WYCKOFF, George & June ZYSKOWSKI, Lawrence |

IN MEMORIAM

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| BLOCK, Waldemar (October 27, 1991) | SMALE, Elizabeth (July 29, 1991) |
| MECKLENBURG, Frederich H. von (June 13, 1991) | SUSMAN, C. Paul (April 22, 1992) |
| *MICHAELS, Howard (January 13, 1991) | SUSMAN, Elizabeth (November 1, 1990) |
| OLIN, Beatrice (August 28, 1990) | *TALBOT, Hazel I. (October 3, 1991) |
| *PRESTON, Mrs. Robert (May 18, 1991) | VanWOERT, Esther (February 11, 1992) |

NINETEENTH CENTURY ORATORS

The following handbill was published by the Otsego Farmer Press, c. 1896:

ANNUAL
ORATORICAL PRIZE CONTEST
of the
Fly Creek Public School.
DECLAMATION AND RECITATION
METHODIST CHURCH, FRIDAY EVENING, MAR. 13
At 8 O'Clock

Programme

1. MUSIC by the CHRYSANTHEMUM ORCHESTRA.
2. "A Noble Revenge".....Linn Taylor
3. "Brought to Light".....Irene E. Shepherd
4. "Pledge With Wine".....John E. Taylor
5. "How He Saved St. Michaels".....Edith Sibley
6. MUSIC by the CHRYSANTHEMUM ORCHESTRA.
7. "Whiskey, Its Poetry and Prose".....George Carr
8. "The Old Actor's Story".....Kate O. Russell
9. "The Armenian Question".....William Dickerson
10. MUSIC by the CHRYSANTHEMUM ORCHESTRA.
11. "The Last Hymn".....Bertha Wilcox
12. "The Victor of Marengo".....G. Cary Randall
13. "Sioux Chief's Revenge".....Maude Cheney
14. MUSIC by the CHRYSANTHEMUM ORCHESTRA.

AWARDING OF PRIZES

ADMISSION.....10 CENTS

Winners were Carr and Wilcox (first), Russell and Randall (second). A similar competition, for prize speaking and gramophone entertainment, was held in 1897. Professor Irish conceived the contest, held among pupils of the Fly Creek Public School. Winners were Nellie Murdock and Kenneth Byard (first prizes), Madge Hooker and Lee Jones (second). (Submitted by Florence Michaels)

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).

MEETINGS

The next meetings of the FCAHS are scheduled for January 27, February 24, and March 24, 1993. In February, Richard Walker and Gilbert Vincent of Gallery 53 are scheduled to present a program on "Farm Outbuildings and Agricultural Legacy." The March meeting will feature Larry Gardner with a history of the Toddsville area. Our scheduled speaker for January had to postpone his presentation due to injuries sustained in an auto accident. However, Programs Committee co-chairperson Elaine Harvey promises to have a substitute program ready in time for the January get-together. We look forward to the surprise!

The most recent gatherings were held on October 28 and November 18, 1992. In October we heard from Ruth All, secretary of the Otsego County Pomona Grange, celebrating its centennial anniversary that same month. Among the Pomona Masters of this Grange, founded October 11, 1892, were Ulysses Van Horn of Fly Creek Valley (1897) and John B. McManus of Fly Creek (1902-03). The Fly Creek chapter (#944) was established in February, 1898, with 18 charter members.

In November, Bruce and Sue Andrews shared "Epitaphs from Otsego County", collected during their tours of area cemeteries. They read more than 40 epitaphs from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, many poetic, some just unusual. A feature article on their project will appear in a future newsletter.

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Post Office Box # 87

Fly Creek, New York 13337

