

# FLY CREEKER



NEWSLETTER OF THE

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

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1 \* WINTER, 1994

Editor: Bill Deane. Associates: George Badgley,  
Margaret Eldridge, Marie King, Paula Schaeffer.

\* Take down your 1994 calendar and mark down the meeting dates for the Fly Creek Area Historical Society (FCAHS). The Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except when Holidays conflict) at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall (basement) of the Fly Creek United Methodist Church. The 1994 meetings are slated for January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24 (Annual Meeting), September 28, October 26, and November 16.

Coverage that even  
advertisers  
in military  
Star in the day  
election. Taking  
a nation on the  
NEWS BRIEFS  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

\* Ghost stories wanted: have you ever heard a ghost story involving the Fly Creek area? The editor is looking for spooky local legends for a future issue of the Fly Creeker. Contact Bill Deane at P.O. Box 47, Fly Creek, NY 13337; telephone (607) 547-5786, with this or any idea for the newsletter. And, incidentally, the Newsletter Committee will hold its annual meeting sometime in March; if you are interested in participating, please contact the editor.

\* Carolyn McLean (315-858-0056) wonders if anyone knows the details of a gruesome incident in Fly Creek's history. Legend has it that, more than a century ago, a young lady was assaulted by a farmhand, who then threw her body into the bull pen. This supposedly happened on Donlon Road, right near the creek.

\* Senior citizens and/or long-time area residents are urged to record their memories for posterity, by either writing them down or submitting to a taped interview. The FCAHS has a tape recorder available for anyone wishing to conduct such an interview.

\* Elaine Harvey has attended 22 consecutive FCAHS meetings since last missing one in November, 1991. This is the longest current streak among members. Maxine Potts ranks second with a string of 17 straight meetings since May, 1992.

\* The Accessioning Committee needs volunteers to help in logging in information about the Society's holdings onto file cards and standard forms, and filing these documents. Please contact Dorothy Martin (547-2655) if you can spare some time.

\* A list of the 128 paid-up members of the FCAHS appears on page 2. If your name isn't listed, please use the membership application on page 3 and send in your dues by February 1 (the end of the six-month "grace" period). Thank you.

\* George Badgley wonders if there are any descendants of the Cheney or Metcalf families still around. Please contact George (547-5450) with any leads.

\* Paula Schaeffer was forced to resign as Secretary due to other commitments. A replacement had not yet been named at press time.

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP, 1993-94

\*ATWELL, Dr. James  
 AUFMUTH, Jayne  
 \*BADGLEY, Mr. & Mrs. George  
 BAKER, David & Scottie  
 BAKER, Mable  
 BARNOWSKY, Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence  
 \*BERTINO, Dr. Joseph  
 BOUTON, Ronald & Carol  
 BOYD, Louie & Dorothy  
 \*BRESEE, Philip & Ruth  
 BULLARD, Albert & Sandra  
 \*BURNHAM, Garfield & Catherine  
 CAMPBELL, Bernice B.  
 CAMPBELL, Grant T.  
 CARR, Richard D.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, Ralph & Barbara  
 CLARK, Mr. & Mrs. Francis  
 CLAYTON, Robert E.  
 \*CURLIS, Irwin & Virginia  
 \*DAY, Irving III & Kathleen  
 \*DEANE, Bill & Pam  
 \*DEVENPECK, Hattie  
 DODGE, Martha  
 DRUMM, Suzanne  
 \*ELDRIDGE, Margaret  
 ELKAN, Margaret  
 FARMER, Dr. Edward & Mary  
 \*FINCH, John & Jean  
 FOUTCH, Maude  
 GILCHRIST, Clarence & Lucille  
 GOODSPEED, Charles & Ann  
 HANEY, Craig  
 HANOR, Katherine  
 \*HARVEY, Merritt & Elaine  
 HECOX, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene  
 HEITZ, Tom & Ginger  
 JENKINS, Arthur & Ruby  
 \*JENSEN, Margaret  
 KEATING, William & Evelyn  
 LAUT, Kenneth & Dorothy  
 \*LAVRINOS, Nicholas & Alice  
 LEVINE, Harry & Ellen  
 LUDLAM, Henry & Toni  
 LYONS, Irving & Joan  
 MacDOUGALL, Hugh & Eleanor  
 MACKIE, Dr. Robert & Lidie  
 \*MARTIN, Peter & Dorothy  
 McLEAN, Carolyn  
 \*MEZGER, Bernard & Carol  
 MICHAELS, Charles & Barbara

\*MICHAELS, Florence  
 MUMFORD, Mr. & Mrs. Rolan  
 NAFZIGER, Dr. Anne  
 NEFF, Mrs. Richard A.  
 \*NORRIS, Robert & Patricia  
 OSTAPECK, Bruce & Aida  
 OSTAPECK, Lady  
 \*PLATT, Alice  
 POPE, Janice  
 \*POTTS, Maxine  
 REILLY, Edward  
 REZEN, Paul & Sally  
 \*SCHAEFFER, William & Paula  
 \*SELAN, Inabelle  
 \*SHAW, Ethel  
 \*SHEPARD, Jean  
 SHEPARD, William & Selma  
 SITTLER, Lester & Karen  
 SMALE, Capt. Gordon  
 SMITH, Zoe Potts  
 \*SNYDER, Arthur & Freida  
 TALBOT, William & Evelyn  
 THORNE, Edwin & Joyce  
 VAUGHN, Bernice E.  
 \*WALKER, Mildred  
 WEILLER, Virginia  
 WHITE, Helen M.  
 WINNE, Helen  
 \*WINNIE, Ernest & Gerda  
 WOLFF, James & Margaret  
 \*WOOD, Betty C.  
 \*WYCKOFF, George & June  
 ZYSKOWSKI, Dr. Lawrence

DECEASED MEMBERS

BLANCHARD, Sally (January 12, 1993)  
 BLOCK, Waldemar (October 27, 1991)  
 KNAPP, Ernest (October 19, 1993)  
 MECKLENBURG, Frederich H. von (June 13, 1991)  
 \*MICHAELS, Howard (January 13, 1991)  
 OLIN, Beatrice (August 28, 1990)  
 \*PRESTON, Mrs. Robert (May 18, 1991)  
 SMALE, Elizabeth (July 29, 1991)  
 SUSMAN, C. Paul (April 22, 1992)  
 SUSMAN, Elizabeth (November 1, 1990)  
 \*TALBOT, Hazel I. (October 3, 1991)  
 TRINKAUS, John (April 13, 1993)  
 VanWOERT, Esther (February 11, 1992)

\*Charter Member.

OBITUARY

Ernest "Brig" Knapp died at Cooperstown on October 19, 1993, following a long illness. He was 87.

Born in Hartwick August 30, 1906, Mr. Knapp was assistant director at the A.C.C. Gymnasium before beginning a career in insurance and real estate in 1955. Besides the FCAHS, he was a member of the Christ Episcopal Church of Cooperstown, Otsego Lodge 138 F. & A.M., the Cooperstown Rotary Club, and the Cooperstown Fire Department, among other organizations.

We offer our condolences to Mr. Knapp's wife of 58 years, the former Jean Turner. Also surviving are a sister, four daughters, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

MEETINGS

Pat Yourno will deliver a talk on local history during the January meeting of the FCAHS (see the first "news brief" on page 1 for 1994 meeting dates). The February gathering will feature Dr. Robert Mackie, speaking on "Medicine in Fly Creek in the Late Nineteenth Century". And, March's guest speaker will be Craig Haney, on the subject of maple syrup.

The FCAHS went from spinning yarns to spinning yarn in the last two meetings of 1993. On October 27, Joyce Mallery and five other members of an Oneonta-based group of story-tellers treated the Society to tales of early transportation, Iroquois Indians, and witches, among other things. And, on November 17, Ann Vickary (accompanied by her white German rabbit, Clarence) demonstrated carding and spinning during her presentation of "Homespun: Then and Now". Ms. Vickary, spinner for the Farmers' Museum, talked of more than 25,000 years in the history of spinning, bringing along various props to illustrate her talk. Other happenings at these meetings included the display of old photos and documents discovered by Ann Adams in Oaksville; and the reading of a Thanksgiving poem by George Badgley.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION\*\*\*\*1993-94

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).

12,000 QUESTIONS

CERTIFICATE OF STOCK

No. \_\_\_\_\_  
The Twelve Thousand Acre Tract Association

This is to Certify That \_\_\_\_\_  
is the owner of \_\_\_\_\_ shares of the Capital Stock of The Twelve  
Thousand Acre Tract Association, transferable only on the books  
of the Association by the holder thereof, in person or by attorney,  
on the surrender of this certificate.

In Witness Whereof, the said Association has caused its certifi-  
cate to be signed by its president or vice president and secretary  
or treasurer.

Dated at Otsego, \_\_\_\_\_ 1924.

Shown here are  
reduced copies of two  
documents relevant to  
the Twelve Thousand  
Acre Tract Associa-  
tion. On the left is  
a blank stock certi-  
ficate dated "1914",  
and on the right is a  
paper documenting the

dissolution of this corporation in 1924.

We can speculate that this was a real estate  
enterprise, centered in the northwest part of the  
Town of Otsego. George Wait was president of the  
association at the time it dissolved.

Anyone having more precise information about  
the Twelve Thousand Acre Tract Association is  
asked to contact either the editor; or the owner  
of these documents, Carolyn McLean (RD 1 Box 105-B, Hartwick, NY 13348-9801;  
telephone 315-858-0056).

DEFUNCT CORP.

IN RE: THE TWELVE THOUSAND ACRE TRACT ASS'n.  
(Name of corporation)

George Wait being duly sworn, says that he  
is a resident of Franklin County, N.Y. and that he was the  
last elected and acting President of The Twelve Thousand  
Acre Tract Association, a corporation organized under the laws of  
New York, that said corporation ceased business not  
later than March, 1st, 1924, that the entire assets of  
said corporation were disposed of not later than March  
1st, 1924, through (\*) sale;  
that the charter has been abandoned and the corporation does not  
contemplate resuming operations under said charter.

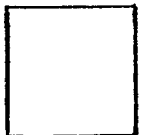
Deponent further says that this statement is made for the  
purpose of having the name of the corporation eliminated from the  
list of those required to file annual returns of Capital Stock,  
and he realizes that the obligation to secure blanks and make  
return is assumed by the corporation in event operations are  
resumed under its charter.

George Wait  
(Signature of corporate officer)  
President  
(Official title)

Sworn to before me this 10th day of Sept, 1924.

(\*) Use such terms as "Sale, Foreclosure, Assignment, Merger,  
Forfeiture, Condemnation, Consolidation, Dissolution, Etc."

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Post Office Box # 87  
Fly Creek, New York 13337



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