

FLY CREEKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 124, Fly Creek, NY 13337



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1 * WINTER, 1992

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

1992 MEETINGS SCHEDULED

It's that time of year again-- time to mark your calendar with the dates of this year's meetings of the Fly Creek Area Historical Society (FCAHS). Meetings are normally scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 P.M., and held in the Fellowship Hall (basement) of the Fly Creek United Methodist Church, on County Road 26 just north of Route 28. Following are the dates for our 1992 meetings: January 22, February 26, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, and November 18. All meetings are open to the public.



Mark Your Calendar!

The January meeting will feature codes enforcement official Neil McManus, who will discuss ways in which the FCAHS can work with him on historic preservation. In February Sally Rezen will present a history of the Fly Creek Valley region. In March Dave Baker will share some of his research on early wooden canoes and their use.

Recent meetings were held on October 23 and November 20, 1991. In October Florence Michaels spoke about Fly Creek's "Fork Shop" area, focusing on Elon Denio (1809-71), founder of the longest-lived shop. In November Lady Ostapeck gave an entertaining program on "Dating Old Photographs", bringing along examples of daguerreotypes, tin-types, sepias, etc. Lady noted that artist and inventor Samuel Morse (1791-1872), considered the "father of photography", had spent part of his career in Otsego.

* The Otsego County Directory of 1872-73 indicates that the Fly Creek area contained "3 churches, a hotel, a store, a foundry and machine shop, (a) manufacturer of horse-power, 3 blacksmiths, 2 wagon shops, a shoe shop, (and) 2 milking establishments." President Peter Martin offers a year's free membership to anyone who can identify the proprietor and location of each of these establishments.

NEWS BRIEFS

* The FCAHS trustees have decided to schedule a "Community Sing" on the third Saturday of August each year. The 1992 event is scheduled for August 15.

* The Newsletter Committee will hold its annual meeting sometime in March. Please contact Bill Deane (547-5786) if you are interested in participating.

* The FCAHS treasury showed a balance of \$5835.98 as of the November meeting.

* On page 3 are listed all paid-up members of the FCAHS as of January 1, 1992. IF YOUR NAME IS NOT LISTED THERE, IT IS BECAUSE OUR RECORDS INDICATE YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES (\$5 individual or \$8 family), which were payable last August 1. No further newsletters will be sent to those in arrears, so please correct this oversight by delivering your check to Maxine Potts, P.O. Box 124, Fly Creek, NY 13337 (application on following page). Thank you.

OBITUARY

Waldemar "Walt" Block, 87, died October 27, 1991 at his Hartwick home.

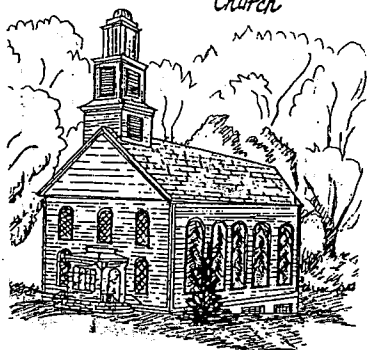
Mr. Block was born at Bristol, CT on February 24, 1904. He was married to Dorothy Cornwall, who died in 1989. He owned and operated Block's Electric Shop in Hartwick until his retirement in 1969. Mr. Block was a member of the New York State Archaeological Association, Hartwick Fire Department, and the Leatherstocking Stamp Club, among other organizations.

Mr. Block is survived by two sons, a daughter, a sister, and several grandchildren. Our sympathy is extended to his loved ones.



Fly Creek United Methodist

Church



**Fly Creek United Methodist Church
10th Annual Apple Fest**

Above is a copy of a souvenir envelope bearing a special postal cancellation. This cancellation was issued by the Fly Creek Post Office at the Fly Creek Cider Mill, October 19-20, 1991. It commemorated the Fly Creek United Methodist Church's 10th annual "Apple Fest", and all proceeds went to the church.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION*****1991-92

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 124, 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).

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP, 1991-92

Listed below are the 117 members paid up as of the first of the year. Not listed are the 39 previous members who have failed to renew their membership, according to our treasury records. This is a disturbing attrition rate. If you are among the 39, and it represents a simple oversight on your part (or an error in our records), please correct it promptly; an application appears opposite this page. If the FCAHS has somehow fallen short of your expectations, please tell us about it so we can strive to serve our membership better. Thank you.

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| *ATWELL, Dr. James | MacDOUGALL, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh |
| AUFMUTH, Jayne | *MARTIN, Peter & Dorothy |
| *BADGLEY, George | McLEAN, Mrs. Carolyn |
| BAKER, Dave & Scotty | *MEZGER, Bernard & Carol |
| *BALDWIN, Rev. Kenneth | MICHAELS, Charlie & Barbara |
| BARNOWSKY, Dr. & Mrs. Laurence | *MICHAELS, Florence |
| *BERTINO, Dr. Joseph | MUMFORD, Mr. & Mrs. Rolan |
| BOUTON, Ronald & Carol | MURDOCK, Mr. & Mrs. Robert |
| BOYD, Louie & Dot | NEFF, Mrs. Richard A. |
| BOYD, Spike & Joyce | OSTAPECK, Lady |
| *BRESEE, Philip & Ruth | *PLATT, Alice |
| CAMPBELL, Bernice | *POTTS, Maxine |
| CAMPBELL, Grant P. | REILLY, Edward |
| CARR, Richard | REZEN, Paul & Sarah |
| CLARK, Mr. & Mrs. F. A. | *SCHAEFFER, William & Paula |
| *CURLIS, Irwin & Virginia | *SELAN, Inabelle |
| *DAY, Mr. & Mrs. Irving, III | SHARPE, Mr. & Mrs. Stuart |
| *DEANE, Bill & Pam | *SHAW, Ethel |
| DECKER, Violet | *SHEPARD, Jean |
| *DEVENPECK, Hattie | SHEPARD, William & Selma |
| DODGE, Martha J. | SMALE, Captain Gordon |
| DRUMM, Suzanne | SMITH, Zoe |
| *DYMOTT, Marie | *SNYDER, Art & Freida |
| *ELDRIDGE, Margaret | STACK, Mr. & Mrs. Edward |
| ELLIS, Mrs. Madeline Carr | SUSMAN, Paul |
| FARMER, Dr. & Mrs. Edward | TALBOT, Mr. & Mrs. William |
| *FINCH, John & Jean | THORNE, Edwin & Judy |
| GILCHRIST, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence | TRINKAUS, John |
| GUMONE, Musa | VAN WOERT, Mrs. James |
| HANEY, Craig | VAN WOERT, Peter T. |
| HANOR, Katherine | VREDENBURGH, David |
| *HARVEY, Merritt & Elaine | *WALKER, Mildred |
| HECOX, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene | WEIGEL, Mr. & Mrs. Fred |
| JENKINS, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur | WEIGEL, Robert F. |
| *JENSEN, Margaret | WHITE, Helen M. |
| KEATING, Mr. & Mrs. William | *WINNIE, Ernest & Gerda |
| *LAVRINOS, Nicholas & Alice | *WOOD, Betty C. |
| LEVINE, Mr. & Mrs. Harry | *WYCKOFF, George & June |
| LUDLAM, Mr. & Mrs. Henry | ZYSKOWSKI, Lawrence |
| LYONS, Mr. & Mrs. Irving | *Charter Member |

IN MEMORIAM

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

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

(Following is the essence of the annual report delivered by Publications Committee chairman Bill Deane during the August 28, 1991 meeting of the FCARS.)

**FROM THE
EDITOR**

The Publications Committee, over the past year, has consisted of Carol Mezger, Paula Schaeffer, and myself. We have also received assistance from several other members, including Florence Michaels, Dorothy and Peter Martin, Maxine Lotts, Irwin Curlis, and Margaret Jensen. With Carol's departure to take on her new duties as Secretary, the Publications Committee now has just two members. If anyone is interested in joining or helping with the committee we'd be most grateful. The chief duties are the gathering of regular news items in time for each issue, and might involve a few hours of your time each year.

We have now put out eleven issues of the Fly Creeker, our quarterly newsletter which comes out in January, April, July and October each year. We also assisted in the publication of Fly Creek Area Yesteryear, the post card booklet that came out in 1990.

Our next project, in the early planning stages, figures to be a research journal, containing articles relevant to the history of the Fly Creek area. These could be on either broad or specialized subjects, and might vary in length from one page to five or more per article. Suggested feature topics include any particular area activity, business, building or cemetery. As long as we are supplied with the pertinent facts and dates, we can turn it into an article. Submissions are eagerly sought for this project, and have been since it was first proposed more than a year ago. So far, however, we have had almost no feedback. If we can't cooperate to gather and document historical information, one has to wonder just what the purpose of this Historical Society is.

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box # 124

Fly Creek, New York 13337

