

Fly Creeker

NEWSLETTER of the FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (FCAHS)

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NEWS BRIEFS

- **Pay Up! ...** Final reminder: Annual Society dues were payable by the first of the year. On page 5 are listed the 77 who have paid up as of January 5 (including new members John & Dianne Eldridge, Dan & Maria Gumble, Dan & Jacque Gregory, John & Jackie Leahy, Doris Treadway, and Emily Zartman – welcome aboard!). That means 165 of last year's members have not yet re-upped. If you are not listed on page 5, please use the application on the bottom of that page to renew. Thanks!
- **Real Treats ...** Claire Kepner and Judy Thorne are providing refreshments for the January meeting, and Wes & Evette Ciampo and Anna Montesano are doing the same in March (February's meeting will be preceded by a covered-dish dinner, so no refreshments will be provided). Please contact refreshments Committee Chairperson Anna Montesano (965-9809) to volunteer for one of the future 2007 gatherings, or use the sign-up sheet available during the meetings.
- **In Dom We Trust ...** Citing other commitments, Jim Atwell recently resigned his post as FCAHS Trustee. Dominic Montesano has been appointed to complete Jim's term, which runs through 2008.
- **Automatic Pilot ...** Robert L. Jones notes that his 1922 Pilot car, featured in the last issue, is in his Austin, Texas garage.

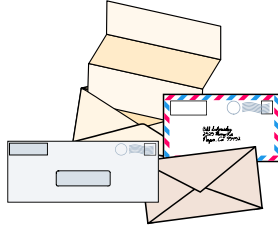
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Thanks to the efforts started by Jim Atwell, Wes Ciampo, Tom Heitz, Debbie Kantor, Peter Martin, Sherlee Rathbone, and Jim Wolff, the Fly Creek Historic District project – reported on here over the past two years – has reached fruition. It has achieved state-wide and national recognition, according to letters dated September 27 and November 20, 2006, from Ruth Pierpont, Director of the New York State Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau:

“Following a detailed review, the State Review Board has recommended to the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, who is the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), that the [Fly Creek Historic District] be listed on the New York State Register of Historic Places... After reviewing the nomination, the SHPO has agreed with the recommendation ... and has listed the property on the State Register.

“The historic district [was subsequently] listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As you may know, the National Register is the nation's official list of properties worthy of preservation. Listing on the National Register recognizes the importance of these properties to the history of our country and provides them with a measure of protection. In addition, owners of income producing properties may qualify for federal income tax benefits. Properties owned by municipalities and not-for-profit organizations are eligible to apply for state historic preservation matching grants.

“If you would like more information about any of these programs, please write to the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau [Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188-0189] or call us at (518) 237-8643.”



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The *Fly Creeker* will print letters of general interest about area history, the Society, or the newsletter itself. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, space, etc. Address correspondence to Bill Deane, at P.O. Box 112, Milford, NY 13807; or e-mail to DizDeane@USAdatanet.net.

I grew up in Toddsville and had many relatives in the Hartwick/Fly Creek/Christian Hill area. I have done genealogy on several of my family lines. My maiden name is Irons and my great-great-grandfather was one of the first Irons landowners in Otsego County (he bought land from William Cooper). It's my understanding that the land was on Christian Hill in the town of Otsego, near the Town of Hartwick line. My great-great-grandfather (who also lived on Christian Hill) had a Fly Creek address during the Civil War years, per letters written home by his son. So you can see why I'm interested in the history of the area and in also seeking additional information regarding my ancestors. Please contact me if you can help.

Doris Treadway
109 Dean St., Rome, NY 13440
(315) 336-6160

Receiving and reading the Autumn *Fly Creeker*, I was excited to read items from the *Freeman's Journal* of July 3, 1929, mentioning my grandfather L. E. Fish, and July 15, 1931, regarding the fire next door to his house. As far as I know the house which he built still stands. I sent a photo of it some time ago to the *Fly Creeker* [published in the Autumn, 2004 issue]. I hope the Society continues to flourish. I will continue to contribute as long as I can. I wish I could attend the meetings but distance prohibits it.

Robert E. Clayton
Denver, CO

I am enclosing a post card [see below] which I found commemorating the first trip of the Highway Post Office between Utica, Oneonta, and Binghamton in April, 1949. I remember it well.

I also enjoyed the picture of the old Presbyterian Church in the last issue. I moved to the Edgett house next door to it in 1946. I remember the plaque being there at that time. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Selan lived in the house that Truex built on the lot where the church once stood.

Wilma Weigel
Debary, FL

FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: 2007 Roll of Membership

Bold = Contributing/Sustaining Member.

AINSLIE, Vera R.
ANDREWS, Arthur
AUFMUTH, James
AUFMUTH, Jayne M.
*BERTINO, Dr. Joseph & Dr. Anne Nafziger
*BOUTON, Ronald F. & Carol
BOYD, William V. & Rita B.
*BRESEE, Philip W.
CARR, Richard D.
CHENEY, Harold & Waltraut
*DEANE, Bill
DEYSENROTH, Peter A. & Maria
EKELAND, Cynthia G. & Anita Graham
EKELAND, Katherine M.
ELDRIDGE, John & Dianne
ELLSWORTH, Catherine L.
FARMER, Mary E.
FERRARI, James & Debra
FLY CREEK GENERAL STORE (Tom Bouton)
GREGORY, Dan & Jacque
GRODD, Robert & Elizabeth Susman
GUMBLE, Dan & Maria
HANLON, Carol Goddard
HANOR, Katharine B.
HARRINGTON, Angela
*HARVEY, Merritt & Elaine
HELFAND, Elliot & Martha
*JENSEN, Margaret K.
***JONES, Robert L.**
KEATING, Bill & Evelyn

LAMB, Theodore E. & Celia B.
***LAUT, Dorothy P.**
LEAHY, John & Jackie
LEVINE, Harry & Ellen
***MARTIN, Peter L. & Dorothy J.**

MONTESANO, Dominick & Anna
NILSEN, David L.
OLIN, Donald L. & Gail T.
ORILIO, Nancy
POULOS, Paul & Rochelle Semel
ROBERTS, Susan
SMITH, Roger C. & Dorothy M.
*SNYDER, Arthur J. & Freida J.
SPRAKER, Donald B. & Shirley M.
SULLIVAN, Mardon & Helen Davis
THORNE, Edwin & Judy
TREADWAY, Doris
WEIGEL, Wilma
WOLFF, James F. & Margaret W.
ZARTMAN, Emily

* = Charter Member.

Richard D. Carr (not to be confused with another FCAHS member, Richard A. "Richie" Carr) died on December 16, 2006, at his Cooperstown home. Richard was born in Cooperstown, September 30, 1928, and was well-known as proprietor of Augur's Bookstore in that village. He was a local institution and a generous donor to our Society. We extend our condolences to his survivors, including his sister, Madeline Ellis, and his nieces, FCAHS members Nancy Orilio and Susan Roberts.

2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
FLY CREEK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 87, Fly Creek, NY 13337

Name(s): _____ Renewal ____ New ____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ e-mail address: _____@_____

- Please register me as a junior member of the FCAHS (age 21 or under). Enclosed is a check for \$5.
- Please register me as a member of the FCAHS. Enclosed is a check for \$10.
- Please register us to a family membership (note: this extends to all family members living in one domicile). Enclosed is a check for \$15.
- Please accept the enclosed tax-deductible donation, in the amount of \$_____ (minimum \$20), and enroll me/us as a contributing/sustaining member(s).

MEETINGS

Time to mark your new 2007 calendar with the dates of this year's FCAHS meetings: January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, and November 28. Society meetings are normally held on the fourth Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 PM. During most of the year, meetings (open to the public) are staged at the FCAHS Building/Grange Hall on Cemetery Road, Fly Creek, one-tenth of a mile from the blinker light. Until that building is reopened in the spring, the next three meetings will be held in the Fellowship Hall (basement) of the Fly Creek United Methodist Church on County Highway 26, just north of the blinker light.

In January, Bill Deane will discuss the 18 years of this very publication in the "History of the *Fly Creeker*." In February (a meeting preceded by a covered-dish dinner at 6:00, Robin Lettis will report on her "Visit to Africa," where her daughter serves in the Peace Corps. And, in March, Donald Drake will give a history of the Pomona Grange. Don, who has been a Granger since he was 14, will also give some history of our FCAHS building, and about the sashes that were donated to the Society by the Pomona Grange.

The final 2006 FCAHS meetings were held on October 25 and November 15. In October, Richie Carr presented "Woodworking as a Hobby." Richie displayed some of his creations, including tables, a planter, and an award-winning clock, crafted with the help of a scroll-saw, table-saw, band-saw, and lathe. In November, Al Bullard gave a talk and slide show on "Hop-Houses." Al noted that Otsego County, NY was #1 in hops production in the United States in the 1800s, before the local industry was wiped out by the blue mold plague of 1913-14, along with changes in labor and transportation, and finally, Prohibition. Also during this meeting, the By-Laws amendment (described in the Summer, 2006 issue) adding the "junior membership" category was passed by the members.