From Your Editor: Sherlee Rathbone

Many of you have noticed that the old wrought iron fence that protected the Fly Creek Valley Cemetery is no longer there.......Well, the community has responded and would like it restored and replaced. A committee has been newly formed and folks are in the process of working on this HUGE project. Many steps will need to be taken......

1) The fence must be secured to protect it from the scrap yard.
2) Research and documentation of the time when the fence was originally placed in front of the burial ground must be done.
3) Estimated cost of restorations and replacement.
4) Where will the money come from?

A committee has been formed: The Friends of the Fly Creek Valley Cemetery.

Donations can be made to the group and sent to PO Box 61, Fly Creek, 13337. We will soon be asking help with fundraisers to restore, replace, and return this historical structure back to Cemetery Road. Watch the newspapers and the FCAHS will keep you posted, as well!
Does Anyone Know?

This new addition to our newsletter will run in every publication. There are several photographs and items in our archival room with no name, no date or no source of where it came from or who donated it. As reported by Chairperson of Archives: Peter Martin, the archives are currently being re-indexed; however, we are puzzled on many items. We thought this may be a great column to possibly solve even a few of these mysteries and involve our readers.

Any thoughts? Where was this photo taken? Who is the child? Who donated the photo? if you have any "leads" at all, please send your information to Sherlee Rathbone or a member of the publication committee. Let’s become detectives here in our own town!!

This old photograph is matted on a piece of cardboard. Isn’t it just precious? And clearly captures someone very special. Look how the bird isn’t afraid of the darling girl!! Imagine the patience and love of the photographer.

From your President ~~

Please review the proposed change to the bylaws for dues on page 5 of the newsletter. This will be an action item for our annual meeting in August.

Also, to report:
- The kitchen is looking great as is the floor into the bathrooms.
- Signs to the Historical District are in the process of getting approval from the Town. They have been designed and meet with the approval of the trustees. There are to be four of them greeting people as they enter the historic district.
- There are also plans afoot to have a new sign in front of our building.

Best Regards, Claire
Dear FCAHS:

I recently purchased a house in Fly Creek and am interested in learning more about its history. I've visited the county office building and the NY Historical Association Library. I think I've located the house on a 1903 map and may have located it on maps dated 1868 and 1856. The latter two show one house in the vicinity of mine. I'm thinking that it is either my house or the one immediately next to it that is shown.

(The house is located at the intersections of County Road 26 and Buck Road. Picture Shown)

Any guidance you could provide would be very much appreciated.
Luisa Reichardt at reichlu@optonline.net

Greetings to all:

My prime purpose is to establish contact with the various Historical Organizations in Otsego County.
The plan is to send to you announcements of activities at the Unadilla Historical Association, with the hope that you have E-mail address groups of your membership, and will forward the announcement to your group.

I would welcome similar announcements from your Society to pass on to our membership.
The thought is that by doing this, perhaps we can attract more people to our events, and also stimulate cooperation between the Historical groups in Otsego County.

If you do not wish to participate in receiving these announcements, please let me know and I will delete you from the list. Herewith the first announcement:

On Sunday August 10, the Unadilla Historical Association will hold its third annual "Book Event." This is an opportunity for authors and Historical Associations to display their publications, and to have a general conversation about local history.

If you are interested in participating, let me know and I will pass your name to our event chairperson.

Have a good summer

Bill Bauer
Secretary, Unadilla Historical Association
whbcphs@frontiernet.net

Mr. Deane,

Thank you for your service! I sense how you feel and hope someone picks up the ball. I enjoy reading the Fly Creeker.

I am a generation removed from Fly Creek but listened all my life to recollections of my mother, Dorothy Potts Laut, my grandmother, Mary Wollam Potts Fisher and my aunt, Zoe Potts Smith. The family names Michaels, Aufmuth and Tillapaugh are familiar. In the '20s and 30s the Potts family owned what is now the dentist office. Before that it was known as the Brown Williams House Bed and Breakfast.

I have the old family "wood lot" on top of Bed Bug Hill and a few years ago added the adjacent piece from Mr. Richard Brown, a timber man from Frankfort. I live in California but visit from time to time and was finally able to attend a FCAHS meeting last summer.

In keeping with the baseball theme I was told that my grandfather, John Emmett Potts was a pretty good shortstop in the men's league of the time.

Again, thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Tom Laut
Committee Reports

Sunshine Committee: The following community members received a little sunshine.

Building Committee: Dominic Montesano submitted these photo’s:

- Peter Martin & Judy Cook in newly “electrified” archive room
- New Kitchen appliances!
- Bulbs planted last year by Ed & Judy Cook, Mike Ainslie & Claire Kepner

Claire Kepner thanks those who contributed daffodils. Does anyone have any daylilies to contribute?

Membership Committee:
Sherlee Rathbone has recently resigned as the chairperson of this committee.
Anyone who would like to fill this position, please contact Claire Kepner.

Fundraising Committee: Dora Cooke and Jim Wolff
- The Society wishes to thank all who donated food items for the recent Pancake Breakfast.
- We also want to thank the following businesses who donated: Taylors Mini Marts, P&C Food Stores, Stewarts Shop, Wal-Mart, Hannaford Supermarkets and Byrne Dairy. And a big thank you to all those who worked so hard: Pam Deane, Judi Cook, Margaret Wolff, Sherlee Rathbone, Caroline Bassler, Judy Thorne, Ann Carr, Donna Francesconi, Jean Finch, Freida Snyder, Ed Thorne, Richie Carr, Jim Yourno.
- This was a very successful fund raiser and the Society cleared $742 after expenses were paid. Thanks again to you all.

Publications Committee:
Tabetha Rathbone has recently joined our committee. She is spearheading the NEW newsletter. A committee meeting will be held prior to our September meeting at 6:30, when things have “cooled” down. Thank you to all who assisted in this first publication.... We look forward to including more of our publication committee members & other members who can contribute!

Other Committees:
We hope to include a report from all committees, and name the chairs, in the next newsletter (to include Library, Program, Activities, and Genealogy Committees)
MEMBER ACTION ITEM

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE IN DUES

Desirous of increasing the Society’s revenues derived from dues without increasing the current dues, and to give members and prospective members the opportunity to make larger financial commitments to the work of the Society, the trustees by unanimous vote recommend adoption of the following amendments to the Bylaws Article One: Membership and Dues to read as follows:

Bylaws Article One: Membership and Dues:

1. Any person interested in the history of the Fly Creek area and who applies for membership in an appropriate classification of membership and who tenders the necessary dues shall thereby become a member.

2. Annual dues for Individual and Active members shall be $10.00. [by amending vote of Society, June 26, 1996].

2a. Annual dues for Junior Members (under 21) shall be $5.00 [By amending vote of Society August 2006].

2b. Annual dues for a Sustaining Individual Membership shall be $20.00.

3. Annual dues for a family group living in one domicile shall be $15.00 [By amending vote of Society, June 26, 1996].

3a. Annual dues for a Sustaining Family Membership residing in one domicile shall be $25.00.

4. Annual dues for a Business/Professional Membership shall be $30.00.

4a. Annual dues for a Sustaining Business/Professional Membership shall be $75.00, and shall include a business card sized ad in "The Fly Creeker".

4b. Annual dues for a Patron of History Membership shall be $50.00.

4c. Lifetime Membership shall be $500.00 and all lifetime dues shall be deposited in the Society’s endowment fund.

5. Annual dues shall be payable in advance and no later than January 1st each year. [By vote of Society November 28, 2001].

6. Members in arrears more than three months after payment is due shall be dropped from the membership [By amending vote of Society June 26, 1996].

7. The membership year shall coincide with calendar year, January 1 to December 31 [By vote of Society June 26, 1996].

This proposed amendment will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on August 27, 2008.
Calendar of Upcoming Events & Announcements

* Caroline Harter is having an auction at her house on 1816 Co. Rt 26 on July 26th
  * FCAHS is selling refreshments. We need volunteers and baked goods! Please contact Anna at 965-9809 if you can help!
* The Trustees have voted to allow Mary Jo Merck to use the upstairs of the Grange for rehearsal of a play, “National Pastime.” A donation will be made to FCAHS.
* The Unadilla Historical Association announces that on August 10th, they will hold their 3rd Annual Book Event featuring local authors and historical associations.
* Bill & Evelyn Talbot recently celebrated their 62nd Wedding Anniversary! Congratulations from all of us!
* Margaret Wolff has offered to write a column for each newsletter featuring a historic house or building in the Fly Creek Area and include pictures and an interview with the owners. We thank you and look forward to that, Margaret!

**2008 FCAHS Meetings & Events: Mark your calendars!**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Society Meeting at the Grange at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Speaker Claire Kepner: A Memorable Trip to Africa</td>
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<td>July 30</td>
<td>Trustee Meeting at the Courthouse at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
<td>Trustee Meeting at the Courthouse at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>August 27</td>
<td>Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Grange</td>
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<td>Annual Society Meeting at 7:00 p.m. ~ Election of Officers</td>
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<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Publications Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Grange</td>
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<td>Society Meeting at the Grange at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Speaker TBD</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Society Meeting at the Grange at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Speaker TBD</td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>Pancake Breakfast at the Grange at 8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Trustee Meeting at the Courthouse at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Saturday “Cleanup and Closeup of the Grange” at 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Fly Creek Methodist Church</td>
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<td>Society Meeting at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>Trustee Meeting at the Courthouse at 7:00 p.m.</td>
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