

# NEWSLETTER

Old Cedar Hill School House, Selkirk, New York 12158

This first Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of William H. Waldbillig, past President (1967-69), First Vice President (1975-76) and devoted member of the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. The memory of his cheerful spirit and his dedication continues to be an inspiration to the Association.

## MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting this month takes place at 8:00 p.m. on April 22. This is the fourth Thursday of the month, not the usual third Thursday. The program, "Making a Museum," promises to be fascinating. Four staff members from the New York State Museum will give us the inside story of how the new State Museum is being created. One of our Trustees, James Weidemann, who is a restoration expert with the State, will be on the panel along with his colleagues, a designer, a curator and an exhibit planner. The new Museum opens in July in the Mall, but we get a pre-opening glimpse of what is to come and how it came to be. Don't miss it.

## NEW OFFICERS

Mr. Charles Alford, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, will present the slate of new officers for 1976-77 for the approval of the Association membership at its next meeting, April 22. The candidates are:

- President: Mrs. Edward R. Dillon, Jr.
- 1st Vice President: Mr. Charles L. Crangle
- 2nd Vice President: Mr. Peter Christoph
- Recording Secretary: Miss Marjorie A. Terrell
- Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. Mary E. Van Oostenbrugge
- Treasurer: Mrs. Thomas E. Mulligan
- Trustees: Mr. John Glenn  
Mrs. William J. Comstock, Jr.

## NEW MEMBERS

- Warm greetings to our new members!
- Mrs. Florence G. Allen, Elsmere
  - Mrs. Guy C. (Katherine) Arnold, Delmar
  - Mrs. George E. Bickel, Slingerlands
  - Dr. Monica B. Bishop, Delmar
  - Mrs. Stanley L. Blakeman, S. Beth.
  - Mr. George F. Bonacker, Delmar
  - Mrs. Ethel Campbell Brown, Glenmont
  - Mr. and Mrs. R.N. Bushman, Latham
  - Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Crysler, Elsmere
  - Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Freeman, Delmar
  - Mr. John P. Hosey, Delmar
  - Mrs. Muriel v.H. Morehouse, Delmar\*
  - Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Oliver
  - Mrs. George C. Porter, Delmar
  - Mr. Edward Rice, Schenectady
  - Miss Mildred A. Stewart, Delmar
  - Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Van Den Houten, Albany
  - Mrs. Philip Knauff, Glenmont \*

\* Joined after January 1, 1976

## MUSEUM EXHIBIT

On May 16, 1976, a new exhibit will open in the Old School House. John Haines is putting together a potpourri of items relating to the history and architecture of Bethlehem. Each item will be keyed to a giant map of the town. Visitors will get a feeling for the whole area, its people and main events, by one stop at the new exhibit, which as usual, will be open on Sundays. There are a lot of surprises in store, so don't fail to see them.

Please turn to page 2.

## CRAFT AND ANTIQUE SHOW

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Mark your calendar now for June 5, 1976. The Association's Spring Event is a Craft and Antique Show to be held at the Elm Avenue Park from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Those of you who are antique dealers and/or craftsmen and who would like to have a booth, write to the Bethlehem Historical Association, Route 144 at Clapper Road, Selkirk, N.Y. 12158 for an application. Dealer fee is \$10. If you know of dealers and craftsmen, please let them know about the event so they too can apply. No exhibits will be allowed without prior contract confirmation so apply now and spread the word. For browsers and buyers, entrance fee will be 50¢ per person except for children under 12 who, if escorted, will be admitted free of charge. And, food, fabulous food will be on hand. So plan now to attend.

The Museum itself plans to set up a booth for its members' treasures. If you have antiques or crafts which might be appropriate for the Museum booth, make a list of them. The committee in charge will select a few such items for display and sale. We'll have details later. For the moment, think about what you have and what other people might want to buy.

### DO YOU HAVE A TEAM OF HORSES?

All good men and women who know of horse teams, mule teams or teams of oxen, please come to the aid of your Association. On Memorial Day, May 31, the Bethlehem Historical Association will sponsor the lead float in the Town Parade, and we need a team of animals to pull the thing. We are sure that somewhere such a team exists and is eager to steal the show in the Memorial Day Parade, but we need to find the willing beasts. If you have any leads on the lead team please call Jane Keller at 767-9579 (evenings). Thanks.

### DUES

Those important but easily forgotten details of membership will come due again in May. As a reminder, Family membership is \$7.00. Regular membership is \$3.00. In our age of inflation and

reduced services, the Association offers a sharp departure from the trend by giving its members better service all the time at the same price. Invest in your town.

### TO BUY A FLAG

Ed Mulligan, Town Historian and Association Trustee, has a proposal. The first and only town flag is now being hand-dyed and will be delivered this spring. The members have an opportunity to approve purchase of the original flag and/or a limited number of copies. It's not a bargain price, but Mulligan points out that it is a unique chance to own a historic flag. Think about it.

### HISTORIC SITES ON THE TOWN

Charles Crangle is hard at work on his Historic Sites Committee whose purpose is to identify, analyze and catalogue historic properties in Bethlehem. Crangle has divided the town into seven sections, each with a committee to explore the region and choose sites worthy of history's attention. After the initial inventory the entire membership will have a chance to examine the chosen sites and make suggestions. Eventually, the Committee will have a complete survey (with photographs) of the major historic properties in all Bethlehem. When the project is concluded, the Association will present the State with copies of the survey.

Meanwhile, please call Charles Crangle if you are interested in helping with the project. He will be happy to tell you the details of the procedure and to enlist your aid.

### SHOW AND TELL

Lois Dillon has a great new idea. Many of our members collect things -- china, dolls, jewelry, costumes, who knows what -- and the Association would love to see your special treasures. Next year, at regular meetings, members will have a chance to display their collections. If you have beloved and beautiful things you would like to share with the other members, plan to show them next year.