

TOWN OF BETHLEHEM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Old Cedar Hill Schoolhouse 1003 River Road Selkirk NY 12158
(518) 767-9432

NEWSLETTER

March-April 2002

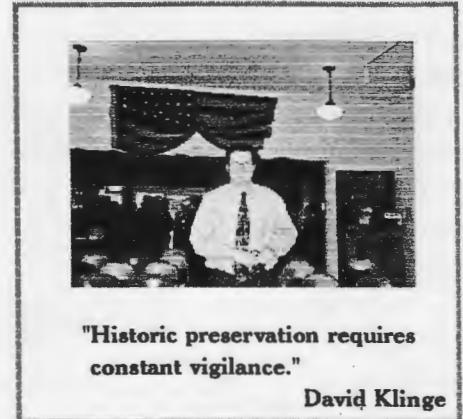
David Klinge speaks on "Recent Archeological Diggings"

David Klinge of Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. spoke to a full house at the monthly meeting of the BHA on Thursday, February 21. The two projects he described, both in the City of Albany, were the distillery found at the site of the new parking garage and the two Historic Register-eligible finds now buried under the west piers of the Hudson River Way.

Two Projects: One Success / One Failure

Through the use of fascinating slides of photos, drawings, and maps, Mr. Klinge explained that he considers the distillery dig a great success. Even though once they were exposed to the air, the vats be-

gan deteriorating at a rapid rate and could not be saved, there was still time to open the site to the public as well as to photograph, measure and study it before it was covered by the new parking garage. The Maiden Lane site, however, was covered by the new Hudson River Way immediately after the discovery of part of the city's old wooden stockade as well as a culvert which was probably the first public sewer project in the country.



"Historic preservation requires constant vigilance."

David Klinge

Next meeting: March 21st 2 PM

"Police Relationship in the Early 1600's with the Dutch and the Indians"

Detective Richard Powell
Albany Police

BHA to Assist in Library Youth Grant

Bethlehem Public Library Youth Services has been awarded a grant in order to photograph historic sites and set up an educational game on the Internet called "ISpy". Members of our association will be using their expertise to help identify and give background on twelve to fifteen important historic sites in Bethlehem. This project, led by Beverly Provost who is the library Youth Services Coordinator, will offer the opportunity to involve students from fourth to eighth grade in town history and to link them and their families with our historical association. Those involved in the project include **Joseph Allgaier, Allison Bennett, Floyd Brewer, Lois Dillon, Howard Gmelch, Parker Mathusa, John Scharff, Martha Teumim, Ann VanDervort, Betty VanOostenbrugge, Marie Wiedeman, and Arthur Young, Association President**

The Bethlehem Public Library project will replicate the ISpy project completed last year by the Mohawk Valley Library Association. To see the results of their project visit the web site: www.mvla.org/ispy.



Left to right: Beverly Provost (Bethlehem Public Library Youth Services Director), Betty VanOostenbrugge, Marie Wiedeman.

Annual Silver Tea a Great Success

This past December the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association

hosted yet another lovely and well- attended Silver Tea. The tremendous amount of work involved was greatly appreciated by the members and guests who enjoyed an afternoon of fabulous food and inspired decoration.

The Old Cedar Hill Schoolhouse was decorated by a team which included **Pete Bishop, Evelyn Drake, Faith Fuller, Dot Geyer, Parker Mathusa, Jim VanDervort,**

Ralph VanWoert, and Connie Wilbur.



Decorations at the Silver Tea at our Museum in December

The delicious goodies were prepared by **Barbara Muhlfelder** and her Food Committee.

Betty VanOostenbrugge's committee served the attendees and made everyone feel welcome.

All of this was accomplished under the capable chairmanship of **Ann VanDervort** and **Marian Davis.**

Decorating the museum and holding a tea in December has been a long-standing BHA tradition. We are

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Congratulations to our new Publicity Chairman, Marty Teumim for getting us back in the Spotlight, on Public TV, and now this our first Association newsletter in some time. We may go to two pages in the next issue, but this is a great start. Please, everyone mark your calendars for our upcoming meetings on 21 March at 2PM- 18 Apr at 7:30 PM- and our annual meeting on 16 May which will start with a repeat of last year's barbeque at 5PM.

pleased that other groups, such as the Bethlehem Garden Club and the DAR, are able to avail themselves of the museum during this time to host events of their own.

Sincere thanks to **all** of you (too numerous to mention) who worked so hard to make this treasured event a success.

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