

Museum of Rhinebeck History

Celebrating Rhinebeck's Rich Heritage

Volume XVI, No. 1

Spring 2009

President's Message

Our deepest thanks to Museum members who joined the Board at the Red Hook Golf Club on a blustery November evening to honor Tom Daley for his significant contributions to local history. For many years, Tom has been travelling up and down the Hudson Valley, photographing its treasures. His sensitive eye and his feeling for beauty have resulted in what we believe is one of the most comprehensive photographic records of 20th century Hudson Valley art and architecture. The highlight of the evening for all of us was his announcement that he intends eventually to donate the collection to the Museum.

Plaudits to Cynthia Owen Philip for her recently published book, *Rhinecliff, A Hudson River History—The Tangled Tale of Rhinebeck's Waterfront*. It is exceptionally well-researched and has benefited from Cynthia's immersion in the life of the community she writes about. The same can also be said about Town Historian Nancy Kelly's just-released book, *Rhinebeck's Historic Architecture*, published by The History Press. On Saturday, April 4th, the Starr Library hosted a book-signing by Nancy, and \$10 from the sale of each book went towards supporting the local history room—generosity much appreciated by all of us who depend on the resources there.

Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck have lucked out by having in our midst not one but two individuals willing to devote the time and energy necessary to do the kind of digging required to uncover what matters and then to present it in a manner that ties the past to the present. As an organization devoted to the preservation and promotion of local history, the Museum is delighted to see what they have accomplished.

Our own Museum Board is undergoing a transition. I am delighted to report that Lida Traver-Landy, who had served previously as both Corresponding Secretary and President, is returning to us as a Trustee. We also have a vacancy on the Board which we expect to fill shortly.

And while we are thrilled with the great number of donated items, the Museum is feeling the pinch of inadequate space. Proper storage and cataloging of donated items are requiring us to reduce the amount of room at Quitman available for exhibits. While we will continue to exhibit each summer and fall in the remaining space at Quitman, we hope as well to display some of our collections at the Morton and Starr Libraries, and at other publicly accessible venues in Rhinebeck.

Mike Frazier, President

2008 Board of Trustees & Advisors

President--Mike Frazier
Vice-President—Ellen Hubbert
Recording Secretary—Steven Mann
Corresponding Secretary—Janice Stickle
Treasurer—Mara Marrero
Curator—Ada S. Harrison
Cathleen Boehm
Eva McClenahan

Janice Scriber
Lida Traver-Landy
Kay T. Verrilli
one vacancy

Advisor—Marilyn Hatch
Advisor—Nancy Kelly
Advisor—Brenda Klapproth



Can You Help Us Identify These Two Magnificent Homes?

The two pictures are part of a recent donation of photos and documents to the Museum by Barbara Frost. While most of the items in the Frost Collection have been meticulously identified, these two photos lack any identification, and we are hoping some of our members might recognize one or even both places. We have reason to believe both were in Rhinebeck. The date of both photos appears to be between 1890 and 1910. If you think you know the location, please call Mike Frazier at 876-7462 or email michaelfrazier@earthlink.net.



Museum Wish List

1. 4-drawer filing cabinet

The Museum maintains records on all of our donated items, and we also keep a detailed subject record on topics related to local history. We have several 2-drawer filing cabinets that are now filled to capacity and our records are now being kept in cardboard boxes, which we pull up off the floor whenever we need to access those records. A 4-drawer filing cabinet would enormously improve our efficiency, and might even save a back or two.

2. An automatic-feed scanner

would be very nice. We do quite a lot of scanning, partly to respond to research requests, mostly to create a more accessible copy of an original photo or document. Most questions about a document or photo can be answered by viewing a scanned image, which allows the original to remain in better condition.

3. Yard Sale Items

Please start now to set aside items you could donate to the Museum for our annual yard sale. Date and location are on the Calendar.

To leave a message for the Museum about any items you might be able to donate, call 871-1798.

MUSEUM OF RHINEBECK HISTORY MEMBERSHIP FORM
PO Box 816, RHINEBECK, NY 12572

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible check in the amount of \$_____

Please enclose your employer's form if your employer has a matching grant program (e.g. IBM).

Please apply my payment for the year 2009 as follows:

Individual	\$10 _____	Sponsor	\$100 _____
Family	\$15 _____	Lifetime	\$1,000 _____
Student	\$5 _____	Lifetime option \$250 x 4 years	_____
Business	\$50 _____	Other	\$_____
Patron	\$50 _____	Added Donation	\$_____
		TOTAL.....	\$_____

Please make checks payable to MUSEUM OF RHINEBECK HISTORY and mail to the Museum at the address above. Thank you!

NOTE: If you have family archives that you wish to donate to us, please check below and someone from the Museum will be in touch with you. _____

It's Time for All to Renew Memberships!

Memberships are used to pay the Museum's operating expenses-- electricity, rent, and curatorial supplies, for example. Because memberships pay only a portion of those expenses, the Museum continues to increase its fundraising efforts—for example, we had a yard sale in May and the Progressive Dinner in September 2008—both of those events raised a considerable amount of money, and helped keep dues lower than they might otherwise need to be to allow us to meet our continuing obligations. And we are scheduling similar fund-raising events this year (See Calendar 2009).

Members eager to further support the Museum's growing efforts can participate in the fundraising events noted above. Those wanting to go above and beyond can leave a gift to the Museum. As a 501(c)3 incorporated organization, we can accept willed gifts through your estate. Please consult your attorney or estate advisor regarding such a gift. A gift can also be artifacts with which your name will be associated in perpetuity.

**Rhinebeck House and Garden Tour
Saturday June 6 (Sunday 7th if rain)**

The Museum of Rhinebeck History will join forces with the Chancellor Livingston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to host a house and garden tour on Saturday, June 6th (Sunday, June 7th in case of rain).

This year's tour will include three gardens in the Village of Rhinebeck—one on East Market Street and two on Chestnut Street, and three in the Town of Rhinebeck—one on Mt. Rutsen Road, one on Delano Drive, and a third off Cedar Heights Road.

This year's tour will also feature the extraordinary McKim, Mead and White carriage house, formerly part of the Schuyler estate. In the afternoon, Grasmere will also be open to our participants.

During the tour, two special events are planned. From 10-10:30, a free continental breakfast will be offered at the DAR Chapter House, 77 Livingston Street. The new colonial kitchen in the house, partially funded by a gift in memory of the late Helen Hill Schoonmaker of Poughkeepsie, a Rhinebeck native, will be open for a tour. (Mrs. Schoonmaker was the grandniece of the late Helen Reed DeLaporte of Rhinebeck, founder of the Chancellor Livingston Chapter and a former State and National DAR officer.) From 12 - 3, tours will be given of the Dutch Reformed Church, located on Route 9 at South Street. And at the Cedar Heights location in the afternoon, Master Gardener Cecily Frazier will give a talk on summer bulbs. These activities are all part of the admission fee.

The first 75 people to walk through the DAR that morning will receive special gift bags. In addition, there will be a silent auction at

the DAR house for perennials, gift baskets, and other goods donated by DAR members, friends of the Museum, and local businesses. Tickets for the silent auction will be able to be purchased throughout the day at the DAR House.

Bag lunches will be available at the Dutch Reformed Church, by prior reservation, between 12:00 and 3:00.

Tickets are \$20 per person if prepaid before June 2, and \$25 per person the day of the tour. (There will be no refunds.) For information or to purchase tickets, call (845) 876-2436 or e-mail bklaproth@hvc.rr.com. Or, you may send your check made payable to **CLC-DAR** to Brenda Klaproth, 132 E. Market St., Rhinebeck, NY 12572.

Volunteers Needed

The Museum needs more docents to keep the Museum open through the summer until the end of October. A docent is a volunteer who works with a Museum Trustee weekends during the season to help welcome visitors and guide them through the exhibit and the Quitman House. We need your help. Age is not a factor, whether young or not so young. We are hoping to have some high school students involved this summer. They will be learning about their town's history and at the same time fulfilling their community service requirements. If you have two hours available on any Saturday or Sunday, we would like very much to speak with you. Please contact our treasurer, Mara Marrero, who is also the docent coordinator. She can be reached by calling the museum office, 871-1798. Please leave your name, telephone number, and time that you are best reached.

Museum Calendar

2009

Sunday, May 17, 2009 at 5:30 PM
Dinner to honor Alan Coon (see article)
American Legion Hall, Rhinebeck

Saturday, June 6 (rain date June 7), 10:00 AM
House & Garden Tour (see article)
Start at 77 Livingston Street, Rhinebeck

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 2 PM
Quitman House
Museum opening for 2009

June 13 through Oct 31, 2009
Museum Exhibit Open at Quitman House
Saturdays and Sundays 2 – 4 PM

July or August date to be announced
Yard and Bake Sale

Sunday, September 13, 2009
Progressive Dinner
Locations to be announced

Saturday, November 14, 2009, 1 to 4 PM
Rhinebeck Town Hall
Holiday Auction

To all Christian people to whom these presents shall ^{Come} ^{Greeting}
in Dutchess County & province of newyork for and in Consider
shillings Lawfull money of newyork to me in hand paid by
& Ebenezer hu[es]sted of the same place the Receipt whereof
there with fully satisfied and contented and there of and of
rate Acquit and Discharge the said Ebenezer hu[es]sted his he
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absolutely Give Grant bargain sold Alien Convey and Confir
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two tract or pieces of Land being part of the Lott which
by the name or number thirty three the first tract or pie
bound East by Jonathan Reynolds north the widow of
John Cap west by Jonathan Reynolds the other tract or
and is bounded north by the widow Johnson Lott afores
by Jonathan Reynolds Land & East by Jonathan Reynolds

The Thorne Quaker deed from Crum Elbow Friends Meeting, a portion of which we see above, is signed Feb 17, 1752. It describes a transfer to Ebenezer Hu[es]sted of 49 acres near what is now Frost Mills in Hyde Park, and is signed by Samuel Cornell, a member of the Thorne family, which family were elders of the Quaker congregation at Crum Elbow, southeast of Rhinebeck. Other signers include Martin Hoffman, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Jonathan Reynolds, and Daniel Harris.



The Civil War soldier stands guard over Rhinebeck cemetery, where many of our veterans are buried and where Museum honoree Alan Coon has done much of his work.

Museum Event to Honor Alan Coon

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 17th at 5:30 PM. The Museum will be honoring Alan Coon at a dinner at the American Legion Hall, 30 Mill Street in Rhinebeck, for his many contributions to local history. Alan's meticulous and relentless work recovering the histories of individual veterans has helped bring more appropriate recognition to those individuals and has helped us better understand the importance of Rhinebeck's role in the nation's military history. His work inspires all of us, and the Museum looks forward to this opportunity to recognize his achievements.

Tickets for the dinner will be \$25 (\$20 if reserved by May 8). There will also be a cash bar. Checks payable to **MRH** should be mailed to MRH, PO Box 816, Rhinebeck, NY 12572 by May 8 or call Ellen Hubbert at 876-3548.

Museum of Rhinebeck History
P.O. Box 816
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

