

DUTCH BARN PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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The DBPS Reporter: News of Society Activities

[January 1996]

This mailing contains three important sections for Dutch Barn members: the Reporter, listing new officers for the coming year; an application blank for a new barn grant program, (your participation can help); and an annual dues notice, below.

STATEMENT OF ANNUAL DUES

January 1, 1996 - December 31, 1996

Organization Membership	\$20.00	_____
Sustaining Membership	\$25.00	_____
Contributing Membership	\$20.00	_____
Regular Membership	\$10.00	_____
Student Membership	\$ 5.00	_____

Appropriate dues for 1996 should be sent now to the address above, unless you have already paid. Please check your mailing label if you are in doubt. Your prompt payment of the Dutch Barn annual dues will ensure that the barn tours, educational efforts, grant program, and other preservation projects of the Society will continue in the year ahead. Members will receive the Society's Newsletter (delayed this Fall, but still forthcoming) and regular communications such as the Reporter and notices of events. Thank you!

ANNUAL MEETING: Despite a rainy day, there was a good turn-out for the Annual Meeting, held at the Touhey-Wemp Barn near Feura Bush. Early in the day, the hay barrack on which various members recently have worked, (headed by John Kaufman and Everett Rau) was completed. With its thatched roof, it sits authentically beside the barn. Owner Carl Touhey plans to add a plaque, in memory of Vince Schaefer, which will name the builders and explain the hay barrack.

Attendees at the meeting were treated to a cellar-to-roof tour of his historic c. 1755 stone house by Carl Touhey. Wool expert Don Otternes, who spins and makes wool figures, and wool spinner Dianne Szabo, of the 1743 Palatine House (Schoharie Lutheran Parsonage) spun in the barn and talked to members. The demonstrations were followed by lunch and the slide talk on Dutch houses by Shirley Dunn. The Annual Meeting including elections was held, followed by a militia reenactment in the fields.

New officers for 1996: President: Thomas Lanni
Vice-president: Robert Andersen
Treasurer: Everett Rau
Recording Secretary: Shirley Dunn

New Trustees and terms: Russell Ley (96) (Scotia), Dianne Barden (98) (Middleburgh), Chris Runge (96) (Millerton): (terms reflect the incomplete term of the previous trustee)

Re-elected Trustees: Lee Lazzari (98), Everett Rau (98), Shirley Dunn (98)

Other Trustees (terms not up): Harold Zoch (96), Paul Huey (96), David Graulich (96), Amelia Andersen (97), Robert Andersen (97), Louis Caputzal (97), Thomas Lanni (97), Christopher Albright (97)

TRUSTEES MEETING: The December meeting, which was to be a Christmas party, was canceled because of snow. The Trustees meet on the third Tuesday, usually at the Fredericks House in Guilderland Center at 7 PM. DBPS members are always welcome.

GRANT COMMITTEE: The application form for our new grant program which will begin this Spring is included in this envelope. If possible, please pass it on to an owner of a Dutch barn. You may photocopy it if you want to give or send it to additional people. Also feel free to send it to any local newspaper. But time is limited. To be considered, the application must be postmarked on or before March 1, 1996. Thank you for any help on this. Unfortunately, the funds involved are limited to a total of \$500 to be allocated between, at most, one or two barns. We know the amount is small, and that most repairs cost much more than the amount to be given. Perhaps the fund will grow in the future. However small, we hope the program will encourage owners to think about repairs. Committee members are Shirley Dunn, Ned Pratt, Neil Larson, Ruth Piwonka, Keith Cramer and Russell Ley.

SLATE VALLEY MUSEUM: The former Blue Circle Dutch Barn in RAVENNA, NY, is now the exhibition hall of the "Slate Valley Museum" in Granville, NY. Grand opening was in September. DBPS members Vincent Schaefer, Everett Rau, and Keith Cramer helped to find this endangered barn its new home. It was moved and repaired by Steve Swift. The museum is the main element of a new park along the Metowee River in the center of the village. When completed, the park will connect the Slate Museum with the "Pember Museum of Natural History," the Village Library, the old rail depot, a trailhead on the Washington County "rails-to-trails" system, and a "Trout Unlimited" fish habitat improvement project.