



UPCOMING

Publication of this newsletter was delayed because of uncertainty about Nellis Tavern openings this summer due to restoration work there. We will definitely be open on the following dates:

July 26 - 3rd annual Nellis Day at the Tavern - display of papers of Henry Nellis, artifacts, and miscellany, 1-5 PM.

September 13: Annual quilt show, 1-5 pm.

We will have a booth at the St. Johsville marina on June 9, when the Erie Canal Centennial Flotilla will anchor overnight, 3-8 PM.

If you wish to tour the Tavern at any other time, write to the Society (or call 518-568-7831) and we'll try to accommodate you.

UPDATE

Gifts we've received: Copy of Henry Nellis Papers from the Ontario Archives (sample on another page); Dozens of distinctive coffee mugs in white or black ceramic with gold rims (for sale at \$1.00 each or \$5.00 fro a set of six; A handmade antique quilt top, which we had backed and tied off by one of our neighboring Amish women. This will be raffled off during the summer. If interested, see page 5.

The Tavern: Replacement cellar door frame repaired and door assembled (needs only some forge work--hinges, etc. before installing). Front entrance repair work has begun and should be finished soon. Cellar beam replacement: a tree donated to the society has now been felled and will be made ready for installation as soon as possible.

what happened to it

We've had a number of fund-raising events. They include our annual garage sale, the mug sales as listed above, the sale of gingerbread at the quilt show, our second Victorian Dinner, and a mini auction.

We have applied for a renewal of our Provisional Charter, and for non-profit license.

We celebrated the Christmas season with our annual party, and are planning our annual picnic at the Tavern for our June meeting on June 12. If you're in the area, you're invited to come. Bring your own place service and a covered dish of any kind.

We want to thank all of you who sent donations at the time of our Victorian dinner. We wish you could all attend, but knowing how difficult might be makes your gifts that much more meaningful to us. We'll drink a toast to all of you at the picnic!!



Newsletter # 14

Fall 1992

UPDATE:

The Nellis Tavern restoration came to a sudden halt when discovery that the center beam supporting the main floor of the building was dangerously cracked and that, as a result, the north part of the building had sagged 1 1/2 inches. Obviously restoration could not be accurate until a new beam was installed. A friend of the society offered to donate a living spruce tree for the new beam. The first two trees felled unfortunately cracked, but a third tree was felled successfully and is now being sawed and allowed to dry. Once the new beam is in place and the building raised to its proper alignment, restoration can proceed.

The Fort Klock Historic Restoration has donated a long narrow table which had been given to them by a local resident who said it came from Nellis Tavern. (It may have been the original bar.) The table is now in the tavern, where it seems to fit very well indeed. Our sincere thanks to the Fort Klock group.

The third annual Nellis Day at the Tavern was held on July 26. The weather was horrible, but the visitors who came (most from the Nellis Family Reunion group) enjoyed touring the tavern, hearing about our plans, and viewing copies of the archival papers of Hendrick Nellis (the originals of which are in the Ontario Archives).

Other events: annual picnic for members at the tavern in July, tour of the old grist mill on West St. Johnsville, courtesy of the present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hezel, exhibit at the Erie Canal Celebration Flotilla Day at the St. Johnsville marina, the second annual Victorian dinner, graduation awards at the local high school, our first ever auction (items donated by local businessmen and friends).

Restoration items: completion of the replacement dellar door at the tavern, the purchase of a new lawnmower to clear more land, and more painting of the exterior.

Coming up: the annual Old Quilt Show on Sunday, Sep. 13, at the tavern, 1-5 PM; the drawing of the winner of our old quilt raffle, the annual garage sale in October, Christmas party in December.

Now would be a good time to start planning a trip to the Palatine Heart country: the mid-Mohawk Valley. You'll see not only a number of Palatine buildings, but you'll see some of the state's best small museums, magnificent vistas, a wealth of genealogical material, the relaxed pace of small-town America, and some of the friendliest people in the world. We'll send you more material if you're interested. Just drop us a card.

