



GROOMS TAVERN GAZETTE

Summer 2002

Dan Cole, Editor

Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern

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www.groomstavern.org

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The Work Has Begun!! *Stay Tuned!!*



Clean up crew, John Scherer, Patricia Speckhard, Kathy Hedrick, Ernie Haffner, (photographer), and others.

Public Program at Shenendehowa Library

On March 25, Town Historian, John Scherer, presented a slide program at the Shenendehowa Library on the progress of the Grooms Tavern restoration. He provided new historical evidence and proposed a room by room use for the historic structure by the Town. Those uses included everything from a gallery to display local arts and crafts to spaces for town offices. Locations were suggested for the Historians office, for school programs, for changing exhibits and for an exhibit on Clifton Park History. One of the suggestions was to convert the wagon shed at the rear of the tavern into a public meeting place, and to convert the small room off the kitchen to a small operating kitchen for public events. Discussion also revolved around the issue of restoring the original stairway to the second floor to make it more accessible to the public. This proposed restoration of the building has been submitted to the Town for approval.

Next Meeting of the Friends

Wednesday, Nov. 6th, 2002

Location: Rexford Fire Dept., Rt 146

Time: 7:00 pm

Phase One Restoration Work Almost Completed

The Tuttle Construction Company of Greenwich, New York was awarded the first contract to begin the restoration of the building. They have completed the restoration of sections of the foundation, including an outside cellar entrance, strengthening the roof beams, and removing a small 1920s addition from the Grooms Road side of the building. This was done with part of the \$116,000 provided by the Town last summer.



One of many piles of clutter in the rooms of the tavern and blacksmith shop.

Photos by Ernie Haffner

Patricia Speckhard launches a basket of trash down from the blacksmith shop to John Scherer.



Phase Two Restoration Work to Begin

Bid specifications have been prepared for Phase Two of the Grooms Tavern restoration. This includes a new wood shingle roof for the main roof of the tavern, a seamless metal roof for the shed portion of the building, restoration of the porch and porch roof, and new siding and windows where the small 1920s addition was removed. Although there is still \$85,000 left from the original \$116,000 that the Town has provided, the total estimate for this work is \$100,000. Councilman Sandy Roth has thus requested another \$15,000 from the Town so that this phase of the restoration can be completed. The Town Board will vote on this on June 10.

Clifton Park's 175th Anniversary

Next year, 2003, marks the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Town of Clifton Park. A special anniversary committee has been organized and there are a number of commemorative events planned. The Town of Clifton Park was formed on April 1, 1828 at the Inn of James Groom, now the Historic Grooms Tavern. Thus the Grooms Tavern will play a crucial role in our celebration. Hopefully, the restoration will be well underway by April 1, 2003.

Farm Fest 2002

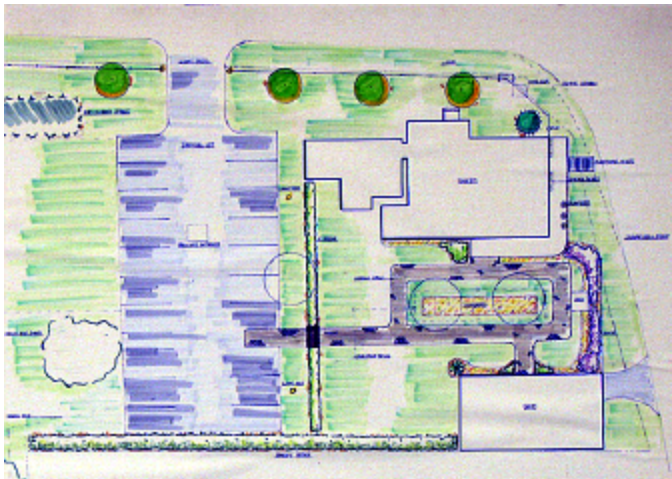
The Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern will again hold open house at the Tavern for Farm Fest on September 14 and 15. Last year, the demonstration of shingle making by Gene Harold, and the "What is it" contest were very popular.

Come see the restoration in progress!

Town Historian Receives Award

Town Historian, John Scherer, received the Edmund J. Winslow Local Government Historian's Award for Excellence for his efforts in the preservation of the Grooms Tavern. Winslow served as state historian from 1968 to 1990. The award, presented by the Association of Public Historians of New York State, is given out in recognition of excellence in one or more public history projects or publications.

At the June 5th meeting, Jack Faddegon of Faddegon's Nursery presented his landscape plan for the Tavern grounds, and listened to suggestions from the Friends.



Memorandum of Agreement Signed

The Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern now has a Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Clifton Park outlining the responsibilities of the Friends and the Town regarding the restoration and operation of the Historic Grooms Tavern. Because of the establishment of a separate Town Committee whose purpose duplicated that of the Friends Group, it was particularly important to define the Friends role through this agreement. Fortunately the redefined role of the Friends remains basically unchanged to its original intent.

New Officers Elected for 2002

New officers of the Friends Board were elected at the March meeting:

<i>President:</i>	Marvin LeRoy
<i>Vice President:</i>	Ernie Haffner
<i>Secretary:</i>	Ann Marie Healey
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Dan Moran

New Board members include Dan Cole, Isabelle Prescott, Mary Jane Whitcomb, and Kevin Bowman who represents the Preservation Commission.

New and Current Members of the Friends

Below is a list of new members, and those who have renewed memberships for the current year:

(The Editor apologizes for any omissions, please contact the Friends with corrections).

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Bass	Mr. & Mrs. David Hyde
Mr. Bruce Benson	Margaret L. Kinoshian
Mr. Frank Berlin	Mr. & Mrs. Alan Lasker
Ms. Georgann V. Byrd	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lemon
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Carlson	Mr. Marvin Leroy Jr
Mrs. Jean A. Cetnar	Ms. M. Donna Marsh
Ms. Carol Ann Chambers	Mary Jane Miles
Mr. John Charles	Patricia L. Montone
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Clemens	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Moran
Mrs. Doris Cole	Ms. Patricia O'Donnell
Daniel T. Cole	Mr. Keith Park
Jorge L. Constantino	Dorothy G. Peck
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Coons	Mr. & Mrs. Niko Petersen
Michelle Cravetz	Joseph J. Platukis
Ms. Jean Kuhlberg Cremen	Ms. Mary E. Predel
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Dassault	Mr. & Mrs. Joel Prescott
Ms. Judith Droms	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Priestly
Mr. Henry Eckert	Ms. Donna Provost
Mr. & Mrs. John Ericson	Ms. Elizabeth Roggenbuck
Herm Finkbeiner	Mr. Sanford J. Roth
Marion J. France	Betty P. Santandrea
Sigrid K. Gabler	Dawn Schafer
Mr. Louis W. Gerard	Mr. & Mrs. John L. Scherer
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Greenwood	Claire Schmit
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Gniewek	Paul Scholz
Norman Goldman	Mr. & Mrs. Roy Speckhard
Mr. Frank S. Gutta Sr	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Tamoschat
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Haffner	William Van Vranken
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Hamilton	Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Verrigini
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Healy	Mr. Malcolm Waite
Mr. & Mrs. Don Hotaling	Robert E. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. George Hubbard	