



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.

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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.

