

DUTCH BARN PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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The DBPS REPORTER: News of Society Activities, Spring 1996

GRANT PROGRAM: The Grant Panel chose the application of Eleanor and ^{Florence} Frances Getman of Fort Plain, NY, to receive the first Dutch Barn grant for barn repair. A total of \$500 will be awarded toward repair of a sill and a sinking corner on their barn. The barn has been in the family for four generations. The Getman application stressed the work that has been done in the past to preserve the barn, and the plans to protect it in the future.

Other applications also revealed owners who have made extra effort to care for their barns. It was very hard to select one application from a total of eight. All the barns (and owners) needed assistance and were worthy of the grant - in fact, of much more help than the Society can give. However, we're happy to do this much. It is anticipated that the grant program will continue next year. The deadline is expected to be March 1. Thanks are expressed to an outstanding panel of Keith Cramer, Neil Larson, Russell Ley, Ruth Piwonka, and Ned Pratt, and to Shirley Dunn, the administrator of the grant program this year.

The members of the Panel will develop a brief list of guidelines to steer barn owners in the direction of repairs that are appropriate for a historic building and contribute to its long term survival. We would welcome any suggestions or an account of your experiences, good or bad, which might help some other owner. Jot them down and send them in, attention Grant Panel.

TRUSTEES: A small reception was held in February, before the Trustees' meeting, to welcome new Trustees Diane Berdan, of Middleburgh, Russell Ley of Scotia, and Mike Carr of Hollowville.

HELP: Many members have not paid their dues! Please check your mailing label and send in your 1996 membership if it has not been paid. We need you on the 1996 membership list.

BOOK: The new book, Dutch Architecture Near Albany, the Polgreen Photographs, should be ready by the end of May. Proceeds will go to the Dutch Barn Society Preservation Fund. The book contains old photographs of Dutch houses around Albany, and gives information about the photographer, as well as details on the architectural styles which made the upper Hudson scene unique!

PRINT: The beautiful print of the Carl Touhey House and its Dutch barn, as the scene might have looked long ago, by artist Jack Wemp, is still available. Contact Carolina Lazzari at 355-8427 for information.

BARN: Louise Wagner of Rensselaer County is willing to give her Dutch barn away to a historical group or other similar use. The barn is unique, but decrepit. Contact the Society.

NEWSLETTER: Chris Albright will help President Thomas Lanni in editing the Newsletter. A Spring issue is in progress.