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Newsletter

Tavern Updates Its Outerwear

by Walt Lane

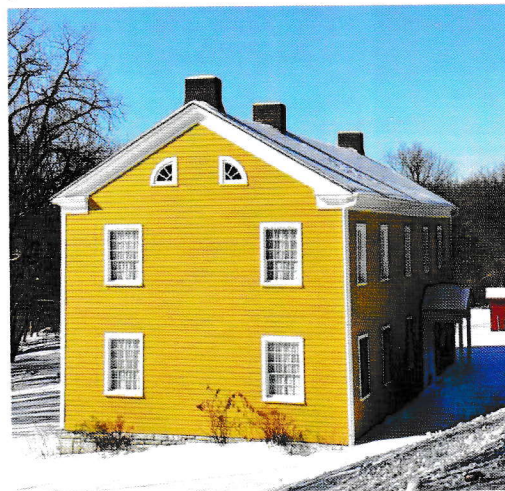
The years 2020 and 2021 have made life more difficult as our country continues to battle the effects of Covid-19. And yet, with tremendous thanks to members and supporters of the Palatine Settlement Society, we have been fortunate to have funds available to continue the structural refurbishing of this amazing old building along the Mohawk.

And so, we continue the story from the 2021 Winter Newsletter. By the middle of May, the weather permitted the Elwood Construction Company of St. Johnsville, NY to return and give their attention to the north side of our building. Windows and shutters were restored. The clapboards received their yellow paint over the prime from last year. The Northeast Seamless Gutter Co. delivered and attached covered gutters to keep the rainwater from running down that side of the building. The front door was repainted.

And....., we opened the Tavern to Sunday visitors in July.

Part two of the project came next, the east end of the building. Several windows and sills needed major renovations. Some clapboards showed their age and were replaced. The southeast corner post of the building was rebuilt and strengthened. Last, the clapboards were primed and painted and the job was complete. 2022 will bring part three of the project, work on the red (south) side of the building, including the porch.

Other work on the property included a professional cleaning of the Tavern interior and a major repair to the water system so that gardens, and rhubarb, could be cared for. Once again, Sandy enlisted Walt to help weed the herb garden, to move more plants, to help weed the garden some more, and to dig out lots of grass, and help weed the garden (lol). We did add some mulch this year which may help a bit. Can you help weed the garden?



The red Cheese House now contains about a dozen old-fashioned school desks, a gift from the Peck's Lake School in Fulton County. These will eventually be refinished and placed in our School No. 8 at the corner of Edwards Road and New Turnpike. A new large safe needed for storing fragile Tavern documents now holds photos and papers to be sorted in warmer weather.

We, the remaining eight trustees, are delighted we will be able to show you our Tavern again this summer. We do hope that a few of you may decide to lend a hand, join our team, and help keep this treasured property available to our community and to travelers from across the country and continent.



Photographer and Date Unknown

7355 State Rt. 5, St. Johnsville, NY

Come visit the **1747 Nellis Tavern** on Sunday afternoon this summer. We are open every Sunday, June—September, 1:00-4:00 P.M. \$5.00 and by appointment

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School #8 Shines

By John Case



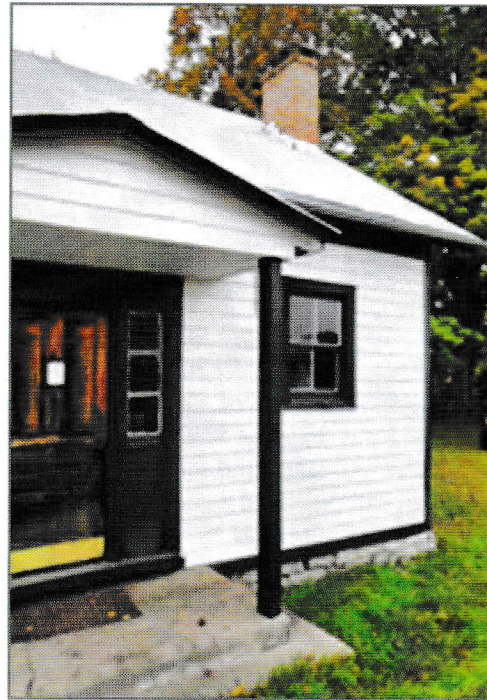
The St. Johnsville School No. 8 is looking pretty spiffy these days. The limestone foundation had loose and missing stones that were replaced or repaired this past summer.



A blackboard is back on the wall as it was when the school was open.



The chimney has been rebuilt from the ground up. When we started on the chimney, we found that it is a double chimney with half for the stove and the other half for ventilation. There is a vent at floor level and another near the ceiling which can be opened and closed to help keep the school room cool in hot weather and warm when it's cold.



Several school desks were acquired as a gift from the Peck's Lake School with the kindness of Sue Peck and her family. Now we are looking for an authentic schoolteacher's desk as might have been used in our school.

The people involved in this year's work are Gideon Mast, who did the chimney and

foundation work and rehung the blackboard. Wet weather this year made these a long task. Darren Bellen donated a lovely piece of slate for the blackboard. Walt Lane arranged for the desks and young Jakie Byler helped with the schoolyard.

This year we plan to work at several projects inside the building which might include removing the plywood ceiling to expose the original wainscoting, repairing a beautiful wooden wall cupboard, refinishing the floor, replacing glass in the windows over the inside doors, and providing new lighting in the school room.

John's great grandson came along to help water the beautiful hanging plants!



The Evening at The Tavern

by Judith Mihal

We were blessed this year to have an Evening at the Tavern as it was the only event we were able to have since COVID started.

It was a beautiful evening with great attendance, lots of food and beautiful music by Kevin Alexander. Visitors mixed with each other and hopefully made new friends. That's what happens at the Nellis Tavern. We have decided to sign up a brewery by March for next year and make a firm commitment in writing. We also decided to make two stews for a whole different meal. (Also decided to make fewer cakes. Ha Ha!!)

If anyone has any suggestions as to what you would like to see at the Tavern done differently, please contact me (Judith Mihal) 518-568-2997. We are all open to new ideas and would love to hear from you.

Everyone stay safe, God Bless You, and we hope to see you later this year.

Visits

by Sandy Lane



Susan Nellis-Davis and Jim Davis reserved a tour for their family members on a Friday late in June. It was great to introduce many new relatives from a distance plus some local ones from the area to how Palatine Germans lived in the early 19th Century.

Many people visit our Tavern every year during our open hours which are every Sunday, June through September, 1:00PM - 4:00PM and during our events. You are also able to make an appointment to visit at a special time.

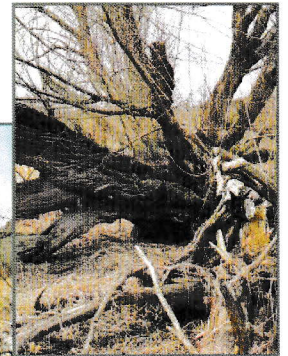
Charles Frederick Nellis II also enjoyed bringing his son and sister for a tour of the Tavern. Although he and his sister were born in Amsterdam, they soon moved to western New York. It is nice to come home for a visit. Congratulations and best wishes with the new grandson!

A Local Hike

by Sandy Lane

On a beautiful dry day in April, when the snow was gone, the ground was fairly dry and the the new plants, like skunk cabbage, had just started to emerge, three board members crossed the railroad tracks below the Nellis Tavern, to tour more of the original Christian Nellis lot and perhaps find where a home and fort might have been in the early and later 1700's. Some of the land is now farmed, as it was then, but some is also filled with broken very old trees, underbrush, grass and cattails along and between the brooks that merge and finally enter the Mohawk River.

Looking west while standing on



the highest point, we could see a stream merging into the main

brook. From that same high point we looked south across the brook toward the Mohawk. This could have been a vantage point.

And looking north across the cattails and tracks we see the



'southeast' corner of the 1747 Nellis Tavern.



Thank You

Because of Covid-19 and our lack of fundraiser events, we gratefully thank those who have donated toward the maintenance and restoration of the 1747 Nellis Tavern and grounds and the District # 8 Schoolhouse.

Corporate:

- Mohawk Country - \$2435
- Rochester Area Community Foundation, Jonathon D. Foster - \$200

Monetary Donations:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| - B. Mielkarski | - R. & D. Nellis | - J. Lein |
| - H. Polgreen | - M. & C. Konicki | - J. Reston |
| - K. Nabors | - D. Fenner | - A. Follett |
| - N. Nellis | - B. Ferraro | - J. Ravage |
| - C. Bailey | - M. Nellis | - G. Tulloch |
| - T. Persse | | |

Special Monetary Donations:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| - J. N. Mendler | - D. & S. Chase | - S. E. N. Kuehl |
| - S. Nellis-Davis | - Anonymous | - P. Betz |
| - Dr. D. Clement | - D. Clement | - K. S. Nellis |
| - P. Russell | - C. Nellis | - A. W. Smith |
| - J. McGlone | - F. Tosto | - P. Ferguson |

Special Donations:

- S. E. N. Kuehl, a single-width rope bed with blue and white quilt
- Bonny Sweet's food donations for Evening at the Tavern
- Darren Bellen, slate for blackboard for schoolhouse

Dues Are Due

It is once again time to renew your membership, if you are not a Lifetime Member. Look at your address label on the outside of this Newsletter to see the date of your last membership application.

Example:

Jane Doe 21 (2021, or earlier, time to renew)

or
John Doe L (Lifetime)

Jim Smith PR (Public Relations)

Our Membership year is January 1 through December 31.

We Need Your Help!


By Walt Lane

Over the past twenty years I have watched this old relic brought back from near dilapidation to a prime example of an 1835 homestead and former tavern with only a few modern tweaks to enable its use in the 21st century. We are very proud of what you and we have been able to accomplish. You have attended our fund-raisers, taken memberships in the PSS, and generously sent donations when you were able. We humbly thank you for your generosity and loyalty to the 1747 Nellis Tavern.

We, the trustees, now have a problem which we cannot resolve on our own. It is our age. Several of us are over 80 and several others are in their 70's. Our ages are slowing us down. It is now time to ask you for help in resolving this not-so-unusual problem faced by many small not-for-profits along the Mohawk Valley. We need to find a few folks to join the trustees to assist with maintaining the building, giving tours and planning the activities we run each year. New faces might also bring new ideas on how we can share this historical site with new friends passing through.

There is no specific financial obligation to be a trustee; just a willingness to share some time at the Tavern and at monthly meetings. None of the present group is planning to leave, at least not until we have no choice. Please give it some thought. We really do need your help if you can find the time. Thank you for listening.

Mercantile Members Thank You for Your Support

<p>Thomas Persse Insurance Agency, Inc</p> <p>86 Briggs St. Suite 1A Briggs Street Plaza Johnstown, NY 12095</p> <p>Phone: 518-853-5442 Fax: 518-853-5443 Tom@PersseInsurance.com</p> <p>Tom Persse Manager</p>	<p>Heritage Meadows Farm B & B</p>  <p>510 County Hwy 140 St. Johnsville, NY 13452</p> <p>518-568-2997</p> <p>HeritageMeadowsFarm@FrontierNet.net www.HeritageMeadowsFarm.com</p> <p>Hosts Stephen & Judith Mihal</p>
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Five County Tour Attraction Family Dining Since 1913

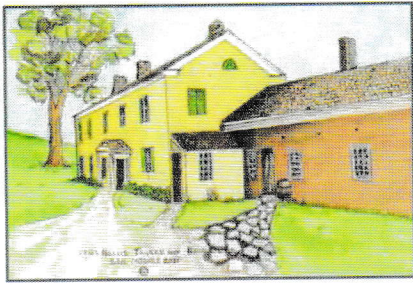
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Palatine Settlement Society
 PO Box 183
 Saint Johnsville, NY 13452

FaceBook: 1747 Nellis Tavern
www.PalatineSettlementSociety.org

2022 Newsletter

Upcoming events for 2022

25th Annual
Rhubarb Festival
 at
1747 Nellis Tavern
St. Johnsville, NY
 on Rt. 5, east

Sunday, June 5, 2022
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Rhubarb Pie Baking Contest
 at 12 noon
 Prizes at 1:00 PM

Musical Entertainment
 1:00-3:00 PM

Tours


For Sale while available:
 *Rhubarb items
 *Lunch
 *Fresh rhubarb
 *Cookbook
 *Stencils

For further information call: Mary Davis
 at (315) 866-2619
www.PalatineSettlementSociety.org
 1747 Nellis Tavern on FaceBook



Evening at the Tavern
 Saturday, September 24, 2022
 4:00 - 7:00 PM

1747 NELLIS TAVERN



PALATINE SETTLEMENT SOCIETY
ST. JOHNSTVILLE, NY

Craft Beer, Cider, Stew, Bread, Dessert

Musical Entertainment

Amidst the glow of candlelight

Reservations requested:
 518-568-2997
 Donation \$25 per person

Supporting Restoration Projects