

The Upland Journal

A publication of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation ~ Spring 2008

How Many Came ~~Guess Who's Coming~~ To Dinner? 200!

"Guess Who's Coming To Dinner," a fundraiser hosted by CPF last month, raised \$14,000 from tickets and generous donations.

The 18 hosts who graciously opened their homes for scrumptious dinners were creative, welcoming, and incredibly generous. Sincere appreciation and gratitude go to Tom Anderson, Mark Schappell and their co-hosts Bob & Kathy Okoniewski at Meadowwood Farm ; Maria & Paul Badami at East Lake Road; Maggie & Joe Borio at Owera Point Farm; Lisa & Russ Brownback at The Meadows; Mary & Rob Connor at Colgate House; Jenny & Brian Coughlin with Jana & Rod Mc Donald on Peth Road; Betty & Gene Gissin with Jeanie Trutt at The Depot; Joan & Ed Green with Nancy & Tony Marschall on East Lake Road; Kathleen & Nate Hoak with Dixie & George Conway on Charles Road; Elizabeth & Fritz Koenneke on Audubon Drive; Camilla Knapp at Old Trees; Jane & David O'Connell on Syracuse Road; Daphne Pietrafasa with Debbie & Bob Greiner on Ridge Road; Heidi Ravven & Alan Manning at Century House; Sarah & Paul Sack on East Lake Road; Lisa & Jim Sasser on Lincklaen Street; and Dianna & Bob Slodowitz at Notleymere.

As you can see this event was a "cast of thousands," and a perfect coming together of caring Cazenovians for a great cause to benefit CPF in the doldrums of March. Committee members Kathleen Hoak, Hanni Kmetz, Sarah Sack, and Dianna Slodowitz and I all worked hard on the event, and we were delighted at the enthusiastic response. — *Wendy Taylor, Membership Chairman*



Documentation critical to maintain easements

CPF holds easements on 18 properties in the Cazenovia area. As the easement holder, it is CPF's responsibility to monitor and defend the easement for the term specified in the document, usually in perpetuity. Monitoring activities are based on the information contained in both the legal easement document filed and recorded in the County courthouse, and in the Baseline Documentation Report (BDR) prepared at the time of the easement donation or acquisition. While the easement states the intent and purpose of the easement Grantor, the BDR details the existing conditions of the natural and man-made environment on the property at the time the easement is formalized. This "as-built" description, then, is used as the benchmark for subsequent monitoring activities on the property.

CPF has received an \$8,800 competitive grant from the Land Trust Alliance in partnership with the State Department of Environmental Conservation to update and complete all of our Baseline Documentation Reports (BDRs). CPF was one of five first-time recipients of the Conservation Partnership Grant funding. Updates will include compilation and standardization of existing BDRs; entering of BDR reports, photos, and maps on a computer database; linking the BDR information to easement surveys, maps, and descriptions; and a detailed annual monitoring visit to each easement

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President's Column

I am pleased to report that negotiations with Dudley Johnson and Cazenovia Restoration Corp. (CRC) concerning their proposed acquisition of the former Ambrose property are proceeding in an amicable and constructive atmosphere.

The offer by Mr. Johnson and CRC represents a unique and historic act of philanthropy. The purchase price would go beyond paying off the remaining indebtedness on the property, related expenses and attorney's fees. The remaining funds would also permit us to contribute to new, special projects.

More important, however, the remaining funds would guarantee continued, urgently needed support for CPF's currently expanding role as a land trust, preserving the rural and agricultural character of our natural heritage. Our active program of acquisition and management of restrictive covenants and conservation easements promises to bring more and more land under permanent protection. We are thrilled at the active progress being made, but the additional expenditure required to support these efforts is a pressing, on-going concern.

At the same time, the Board is obliged to respect the expectations of the many who have already donated substantial monies to the Ambrose property project. Including expenses and attorney's fees, the original cost was around \$752,000. Generous donations from our many supporters have reduced the outstanding debt on the property to less than \$200,000. Our members also must be credited with having donated the real estate and school taxes for the past seven years, as well as having patiently paid the interest on our mortgage.

Hence the Board is going forward, but with care, to ensure, insofar as we possibly can, that the final agreement is true both to CPF's mission and to the many and generous friends whose contributions have made this enterprise possible. —*Jim Evans*

Save the date, June 12th!

Mark your calendar for CPF's annual meeting. It's got all the hallmarks of an interesting and informative evening: election, awards, a virtual history tour, and treats!

Here's a sneak peek of award winners:

Dorothy Riestler will take home the prestigious Webster Award for her lifelong dedication and attention to helping preserve Cazenovia's character, and her "magnificent gift of Stone Quarry Hill Art Park to the people of Cazenovia."

Ted and Barbara Bartlett—Residential Architectural Award

Russell Brownback— Commercial Architectural Award

Chairman Jack Rooney and the Mayor's Advisory Committee To Conserve Cazenovia's Historic Resources—Civic Appreciation Award

Karen Love and John Romig—Farmland and Landscape Award

Linda Witherill—CPF Special Recognition Award

Also, new board members and officers will be elected, and Russell Grills will present an illustrated talk on Village Architectural Styles through the Centuries. Grills is former Town Historian as well as the former site manager of Lorenzo.

7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12, Presbyterian Church Meeting House, off Sullivan street.

CPF Trails Mapping

By early summer, CPF will have a new, detailed map of the public trails that lace through easement and CPF-owned lands from Fairchild Hill on the south end of Cazenovia Lake to Sherman's Gulch off Burlingame Road. The mapping is being done by Cazenovia College intern Ashley Kerker under the supervision of Judy Gianforte using a GPS unit donated to CPF by Eastern Mountain Sports in Fayetteville. About four miles of walking and ski trails will be shown on the map as well as parking and access points off Route 20 and Burlingame Road. Visit the CPF website to access the map, and join CPF members and friends on May 31 on the Cazenovia Trail Walk that is part of the CPF summer "Get Out There" series. Check out the poster in this issue.

\$2.53M 'protection' awards granted to two area farms

Two local farms—Greyrock and Reed—received bonus holiday gifts in December, notice of award from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) that their farm would receive a competitive Farmland Protection Implementation Grant. The NYS grant will purchase and extinguish the development rights of each farm and support its continuation as a viable agricultural enterprise.

Thirty-five farms in 22 counties received Farmland Protection grants, the program representing an investment of \$69 million to the Central New York economy in this round alone.

The 268-acre Greyrock Farm is located on the north end of East Lake Road and includes tilled land with frontage on both East Lake and Ridge Roads as well as woodlot and old pasture east of Ridge Road. The farm's deed dates back to 1821 and Kaye Fisher Osborne is the third generation in her family to work the farm. Farm operations include certified organic crop and hay production, an all-natural direct market chicken-and-egg operation, horse boarding, and riding lessons. Greyrock Farm received a grant of \$857,664.

The 434-acre Reed Farm includes lands off Reservoir Road in Cazenovia. This dairy farm includes crop and pasture land as well as frontage on Limestone Creek, which flows through the farm. Reed Farm lands abut DeRuyter State Forest and are close to the Critz Farm that was selected for protection in the 2006 round of NYSDAM grants. State criteria for award selection include proximity to other protected lands. The Reed Farm received a grant of \$1,672,912.

CPF will hold the conservation easements on all three farms.

It can take as long as two years of work by CPF, the Town of Cazenovia, the farm owners, CACDA, consultants, and volunteers to prepare documents and receive NYSDAM approvals to finalize grant awards. At the same time, CPF remains active in helping farmers in the Cazenovia area better understand the grant opportunity and prepare their applications for the next 2008 round of grants. —*by Judy Gianforte*

Barn restoration a community project

Many owners of historic properties learn the hard way that renovation takes more time and money than originally planned. Hollywood even turned the "dilapidation dilemma" into a comedy with a 1986 movie aptly titled *The Money Pit*. The challenges facing the restoration of Carpenter's Barn, home to CAVAC, though, are no laughing matter.

Several interested parties, fundraising, unforeseen problems, and details, details, details are commonplace. In addition, CAVAC faces the age-old question of relocating or "living with the mess" during reconstruction. The Village of Cazenovia, owner of the barn, also is concerned about deteriorating stone walls at Lakeland Park and has added that project to its must-do list.

"It's important to both restore this beautiful barn and keep CAVAC 'at home' in the Village," according to CPF board member Barbara Clarke. "The community recognizes the historic importance of Carpenter's Barn and has long appreciated its use by CAVAC. It's a landmark on the Village edge, and CAVAC has intentionally integrated the need to preserve a unique and beautiful building with its use by a critically important community resource. We're hoping a collaborative community effort can save both the building and CAVAC's use of it.

*** Memorial Gift

CPF has gratefully received a gift of \$10,000 in memory of Linda Dows Marshall toward the restoration of Carpenter's Barn. Linda was a founding member of (CAVAC), the Cazenovia Area Volunteer Ambulance Corps. The 19th-century stone stable has housed CAVAC since the emergency organization's inception in 1973.

Contributions to the Carpenter's Barn restoration fund may be mailed to CPF Barn Fund, PO Box 627, Cazenovia, NY 13035. CPF is a tax-deductible 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

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property to document current conditions and correlate them to the Baseline Documentation for that property. An intern from the Upstate Institute at Colgate University will be assisting Judy Gianforte in this important project. Many thanks to Lauren Lines for her help in writing the successful grant application that will make this work possible.

—*by Judy Gianforte*

Saturday, May 10

Spring Wildflowers and Families

10 am to noon

Stone Quarry Hill Art Park

Join Bettina Frisse and Polly Monz on the trails of the Art Park to look for spring flowers. Learn how to identify individual and families, as well as horticultural and medicinal information on local flora. Meet in the Secret Garden.

Saturday, May 31

Cazenovia Trail Walk: Burlingame to Chittenango Falls

Did you know you could walk on trails from Burlingame Road all the way north to Chittenango Falls? Come walk the entire way, or just join a stage or two. Car shuttle provided at each stop. Bring own lunch.

9:00 am — Meet in Lorenzo parking lot. Carpool to Sherman's Gulch for the start of the full hike.

10:15 — Meet new hikers at Lorenzo for the Village Trails section.

10:40 — Meet new hikers at Cazenovia Library parking lot for the Gorge Trail section. Bathroom available. Lunch stop during this stage.

12:15 — Meet new hikers on the north side of Bingley Road for the Link Trail Section. Park on Emhoff Road.

1:15 — Finish hike at Chittenango Falls State Park.

Saturday, June 7

Bird Songs & Nests

8 am to 10 am

Fairchild Hill

Park in the State lot at the south end of the lake across Route 20 from the brown building.

Spring is a great time to learn more about our breeding and summer resident birds. Join Jeanne Ryan in a visual and auditory exploration of our feathered neighbors in the fields and woods of Fairchild Hill. Bring binoculars and field guides. Rain date: June 8.

Saturday, June 28

Understanding Agriculture

10 am to noon

Holmes Farm, East Road, New Woodstock

How do farmers till, fit and plant the land? What is a freestall? How do several hundred cows get milked each day? Peter Holmes will be our guide through the intricacies of a farmer's field and dairy work.

Saturday, July 26

Attracting and Identifying Butterflies

10 am to noon

Atwell Corners Schoolhouse, off Pompey Hollow Road, 3/4 mile north of Route 20

Local naturalist Polly Monz will share her secrets in using perennials and native plants to attract butterflies to her yard. Elements of good butterfly habitat will be demonstrated, and local species will be identified.

Saturday, August 16

Wildlife Habitat Gardening

10 am to noon

Atwell Corners Schoolhouse, off Pompey Hollow Road, 3/4 mile north of Route 20

Adding natural elements like stone, native shrubs, water and brushpiles to your garden can create a natural environment that attracts a wide variety of wildlife, butterflies and birds. Polly Monz will share her experience in building habitat gardens, as well as selecting plants that can survive the added wildlife attention. We will also observe and tag monarch butterflies during this session and discuss the Monarch Waystation Program.

GET OUT THERE!



Rain or shine. No dogs please.

Questions: Call Judy Gianforte at 687-3146 or e-mail cpfstaff@verizon.net

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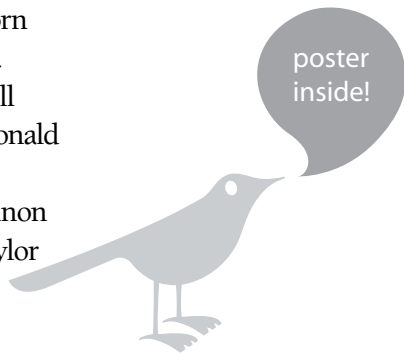
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Visit us at www.cazpreservation.org

Meet board member Jana McDonald

Jana McDonald is a land use attorney and urban planner who previously represented commercial and industrial developers in New Jersey and South Florida. After moving to Upstate New York, she advised the City of Utica's zoning, planning, and scenic and historic preservation boards as Director of the City's Planning Department. She currently works for Lindenfeld Law Firm and resides in Cazenovia with her husband and three children. She has been an active volunteer and fundraiser for many local organizations, including The Friends of Lorenzo, CPF, and Syracuse Stage. She was recently appointed to the Cazenovia Village Zoning Board of Appeals.



This issue of *The Upland Journal* includes a lot of information about current projects and activities of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation. Many of CPF's efforts are not always apparent, but without them Cazenovia would be a different place. CPF works to preserve what is unique and important to our community. It exists with the help of the community.

We would welcome you as a new, or renewing, member of CPF! Make your contribution payable to Cazenovia Preservation Foundation and mail to: CPF, P.O. Box 627, Cazenovia, NY 13035-0627.

CPF Annual Memberships

Conservator membership — \$1,000+	Sponsor membership — \$50 - \$99
Benefactor membership — \$500 - \$999	Sustaining membership — \$25 - \$49
Patron membership — \$100 - \$499	Regular membership — \$10 - \$24

Name _____

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Please enclose your employer's matching gift form, if applicable.