

Ellenville/Wawarsing Alumni News

by Dr. Richard Craft, President, *EWAA*


The annual meeting of the *Ellenville/Wawarsing Alumni Association* was held on January 25th at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Richard Craft. Elected as officers for the coming year were Dr. Craft, president; Joan Donohue, vice president and membership coordinator; Lillian Green, secretary; Joseph Wolfe, treasurer; Keith Hull, website manager; Paul Scraggs assistant membership coordinator. Also present were Robert Kleinman, Kay Hull, Carolyn Kuhlmann, Joan Beck.

Boasting a membership of over 1400, the *EWAA* connects lost friendships, announces reunions and reports on them, reconnects alumni with their high school and community roots, provides scholarships totaling \$1000. and provides refreshments at the annual graduation ceremonies. The *EWAA* planned to make a formal presentation of its activities to the *Ellenville School Board* during its February meeting.

Since communication is a key to the success of any organization, the *EWAA* sends a six-page printed newsletter to its entire membership four times a year. We also send free newsletters to members of the previous two graduating classes. In addition, a website has been established at www.virtualife.com/ewaa. A new email address has been established at rcraft@hvc.rr.com.

Two new projects were undertaken which will hopefully add to our membership. The first effort will place an ad in the monthly editions of *Wawarsing.Net*. The second one, and far more ambitious, is to begin plans for a school-wide, alumni-wide homecoming during the annual *Blueberry Harvest/Music Festival/Street Fair* during August 2006. An afternoon of fun, reunion, special presentations will be followed by a buffet supper. More information will be given as plans materialize.

Now in its seventh year of operation, the *EWAA* provides an essential service to all those former residents and alumni of the Ellenville/Wawarsing area who still look upon this region as HOME. Alumni from all over the country now have a reference point and a means of keeping in touch with people, places, and events which they still hold dear, even though they may be thousands of miles away or just next door. A few members keep in touch from as far away as South America, Israel, and Europe. Our mission statement sets forth our objective, "To inform, to promote and to instill pride in Ellenville, our Alma Mater."

For those desiring to join, the dues are \$5 per year and can be sent to **PO Box 731, Napanoch, NY 12458**. As an additional source of income, we sell and ship Ellenville hats, "Nestled in the Valley" *Imperial Schrade* pocket knives, and Blue and Gold T-Shirts emblazoned with the picture of the old High School on the back and the *EWAA* name on the front. Let's hear from you. 



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At the Ellenville Public Library

EHS Students Exhibit Photos

"Photography – The Medium of Light" will be exhibited at the *Ellenville Public Library & Museum's Gallery Link* for the month of March, featuring works from *Ellenville High School* students in Richard Greffrath's photography class. The show opened with a reception Monday, March 1st.


"Making a quality composition takes a trained eye, and quite a bit of time and effort," said Greffrath of the art form. "Learning how to use a camera, as well as developing negatives into positive prints is a time-consuming and delicate process," he added. Included in the show are students' solutions to a variety of photo assignments – nature, people, town, and still-life photographs. Proud of his protégées, Greffrath hopes that the public will attend the show, stating that "Ellenville has many talented developing photography artists."

The *Gallery Link* is open Monday through Thursday, 10 AM to 8 PM; Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM; and Saturday 10 AM to 3 PM. For more information, please call the *Library* at 647-5530. 

Garden Friends and Foes ID'd

Francis Groeters of *Catskill Native Nursery* in Kerhonkson will present a slide lecture entitled "Garden Nightmares & Garden Dreams" on **Wednesday, March 3rd, at 7:00 PM** in the *Ellenville Public Library & Museum's Community Room, 40 Center Street*. The snow date for the program is Wednesday, March 31st (7 PM).

"Most invasive plants started as someone's idea of a good garden plant. These plants are exchanged with friends, dug up from roadsides and even sold in nurseries. These dream plants can often become a nightmare for the home gardener, spiraling out of control and behaving badly," according to Groeters. "Garden Nightmares & Garden Dreams" will provide an opportunity not only to identify some of the worst garden thugs, but also to learn about the well-behaved low maintenance, beautiful and beneficial plants that will enhance your garden and landscape.

The program is free and open to the public. The *Community Room* is accessible to the handicapped. For information, please call the library at 647-5530. 

Winter in Ellenville

by Elyssa Garcia, Grade 5

It just snowed,
And you're sitting on your window sill,
You look outside,
at white and snowy Ellenville!
You're drinking hot chocolate,
And you wonder,
Would you rather have snow,
Or rain and thunder?
You choose snow,
Just for Ellenville,
While your drinking hot chocolate,
On your window sill!