

Speakers at HMPC Meeting

by Marion Dumond, *Chairperson, HMPC*

The *Hunt Memorial Preservation Committee, Inc.* will hold its second annual membership meeting at 7 PM on **Wednesday, November 3rd** in the **Berger Building** at **129 South Main Street**, Ellenville.

William E. Krattinger, Historic Preservation Specialist with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and his associate, Stacey Matson-Zuvic, Grants Specialist with the same Office, will be present to talk about the importance of historic preservation in Ellenville. Krattinger has recently sent the State-approved nomination of the **Hunt Memorial Building** to the National Register for their approval and is well qualified to answer questions about the advantages of having the **Hunt Memorial Building** on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Stacey Matson-Zuvic has already been in contact with *HMPC's* president about the building's eligibility for various grants under a variety of programs.

The meeting's agenda includes the election of three members to the Board of Directors for 3-year terms. Incumbent director Steve Bradley, appointed last December to fill the balance of Raymond Matthews's unexpired term, is eligible for election. The Nominating Committee has proposed the names of Phyllis Lennert and Irwin Rosenthal for the two other terms. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

Qualifications for election to the Board of Directors require that any active member (on the membership list as of October 1) in good standing is eligible to be nominated at that year's annual membership meeting. The Board of Directors meets at least monthly throughout the year.

Any person who became a member of the *HMPC* before October 1 is eligible to vote in the election.

Although the annual meeting is a membership meeting, preservation-minded residents are welcome to attend the meeting. Members have already received their invitations and annual reports. New members are invited to join *HMPC* and participate in the organization's efforts to preserve both **Hunt Memorial** and other buildings of historic importance.

Members and guests are requested to park in the lot at the rear of the building and enter through the parking lot entrance. The meeting will be held in the downstairs meeting room and will begin promptly at 7 PM. Refreshments will be served.

Since we first met in October 2002, the *HMPC Board of Directors* has completed most of the bureaucratic paperwork required of a community organization that wants to be eligible for governmental and private grants. We applied for, and received, our federal employer identification number, (not that we have any employees, but it's

required); 501(c)(3) status; our New York State Exempt Organization Certificate; and our New York State vendor number (we must pay sales tax on fund raising sales).

Our big success to date is the acceptance of the **Hunt Memorial Building's** nomination to the New York State Register of Historic Places. The nomination to the National Register is in process.


The Village of Ellenville has recognized us as a preservation organization and our input concerning the 2004 Village Law establishing an *Historic Preservation Commission* was welcomed. Two *HMPC* Directors were appointed to the Preservation Commission.

We have been, and continue to be, consulted about potential buyers for **Hunt Memorial** and their proposed uses for the building. The Mayor has requested our list of businesses and services that should not be considered for Hunt Memorial, such as used appliance dealers, adult book stores, bars, etc. Somehow, during all these discussions, the building name has evolved into the shorter "THE HUNT."

We continue to press for free use of the portico and the **Liberty Square** lawn for community gatherings that have become traditional: ceremonies on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Fourth of July, the Saturday evening open air concerts every July, the annual *Ellenville-Wawarsing Chamber of Commerce Blueberry Festival*, and similar events.

So far, our only income has been from personal donations, memberships, and several fundraising projects. Our two Art Tours were social successes, but garnered no profits. This year, we have attractive note cards for sale (*see September 2004, Issue 22, page 10*). This is a relatively small project, and the net profit will also be small.

We need more participation by our members, which we hope will begin with your attendance at the Annual Meeting on November 3rd. By the way, please check the expiration date on your membership card to see if this meeting would also be a good time to renew your membership.

For additional information, call Marion Dumond at 647-7621 or any other member of the *HMPC Board of Directors*: Robert Berger, Sally Berger, Steve Bradley, Iris Friedman, Barbara Hoff, Phyllis Rubin, Stan Rubin, and Mary Sheeley. 



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