Winter 2000

Myosotis Messenger

FORGET-ME-NOT

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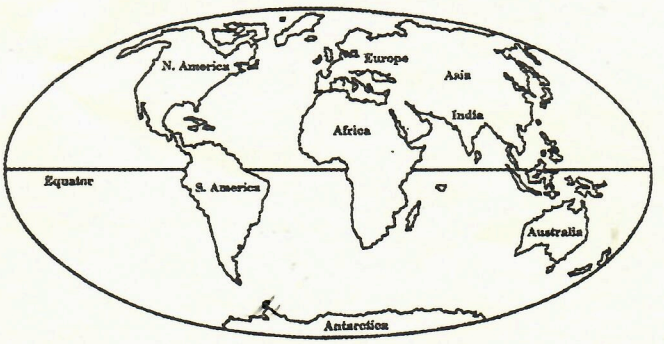
Global Climate Change – Ten Years Later

On December 15th, 1999, seven environmental groups – Environmental Defense Fund, National Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, Union of Concerned Scientists, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, World Resource Institute, World Wildlife Fund – will post a map of the Earth on the internet (www.climatehotmap.org) that shows dozens of "early warning signs" of global warming. This week (Dec. 13) *Time* magazine has a two-page preview of this map. *Time*, this month's issue of *Scientific American* (The Human Impact on Climate), *American Scientist* (How will Climate Change affect Human Health?) and *Discover* (Antarctica's Hot Spots) have major articles on climate change.

Ten years ago I organized a two-day conference entitled Global Climate Change and Life on Earth that was held at the NYS Museum and I subsequently edited a book with the same title published by Chapman and Hall. In 1989, reports about local climate change were met with a good deal of skepticism by many. Today after the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (jointly supported by the World Meteorological Organization and the UN Environmental Program) in 1995 reported "The balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on global climate," opinions have changed dramatically. As the *Time* magazine headline states "Global Warming is well under way."

The Earth has the average temperature it does because of the concentration of gases in its atmosphere. The concentration of these so-called greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, CFCs, methane, nitrous oxide, water vapor and others, have been increasing since the beginning of the industrial revolution. These gases trap some of the solar radiation that the planet would otherwise radiate back to space. Physicists have described the effect of increased concentration of greenhouse gases differently. They say that the amount of energy arriving at Earth must equal the amount leaving or the planet would burn up. But with higher greenhouse gas concentrations, it takes a warmer planet to give off the energy the planet receives.

A decade ago the authors in my book and I predicted a number of consequence of global climate change. The map in *Time* illustrates that many have been born out. For instance we predicted that because climatic conditions to which plant and animal species have adapted would move north away from the equator in the northern hemisphere, those plants and animals would have to move or be lost. A similar effect was predicted for – altitude – those living at the top of mountains would be lost as climatic conditions moved up the mountains. Now we see that Edith's checkerspot butterfly has disappeared from lower



Map(s) showing fingerprints of global warming with changes thought to be the result of climate change around the world can be found on the internet at www.climatehotmap.org

elevations and the southern limit of its range in California. In Antarctica Adelie penguin populations have declined 33% in 25 years because the sea ice on which they live is shrinking. There is some evidence that the loss of the golden toad from Costa Rica's cloud forests was related to global warming. Together with other forms of habitat destruction, climate change threatens to further increase the already rapid loss of important species.

Another predicted consequence of a warmer planet is a greater frequency and intensity of storm events. Because the planet is warmer there is more evaporation of water from the oceans and hence more moisture available to fuel heavier precipitation events. On a warmer planet there is also more energy available to produce extremely violent events such as hurricanes and violent thunderstorms. Recent extreme events in Australia, Korea, California and the Southeastern U.S. are the kinds of events previously predicted.

We also suggested that sea level would continue to rise due to the thermal expansion of the oceans and the melting of polar icecaps and glaciers. Now it is reported in *Science* (3 December 1999) that there has been a reduction of about 3% per decade in the areal extent of arctic sea ice cover since 1978. In the Antarctic nearly 1150 sq. mi. of the Lawson and Wilkins ice shelves collapsed from March 1998 to March 1999. Glaciers have been shrinking in the continental U.S. (Glacier National Park), Alaska, India, Russia, Peru and the Alps.

We also predicted that droughts and wild fires would increase in frequency and intensity in some areas. Tremendous forest fires have since occurred in Spain in 1995 and in Mexico and Indonesia in 1998.

Finally we suggested that some diseases would be able to spread into new areas as climate warmed in part because the vectors would be able to survive over broader areas. Now reports are available about malaria have moved into the highlands of Kenya killing hundreds of people where the population had not been previously exposed. In Columbia in the Andes mosquitoes that can carry dengue and yellow fever now appear at elevations of up to 7200 ft. where previously they were limited to only 3300 ft. Malaria is now also found in the Indonesian mountains up to 6900 ft. for the first time.

Locally I have to fight with myself not to plant my garden in mid-April because even though spring appears to arrive about two weeks early, we still can get killing frost into May. It is difficult to prove, but the rapid spread of several tree diseases and pests in this region, may be accelerated by more equitable climate (e.g. wooly adelgid on eastern hemlock, beech bark disease, white ash blight). Moderate winters may allow pest populations to remain high and spread more rapidly. In addition it is likely that the large deer herd that has grown in the last several years is in part related to recent relatively mild winters.

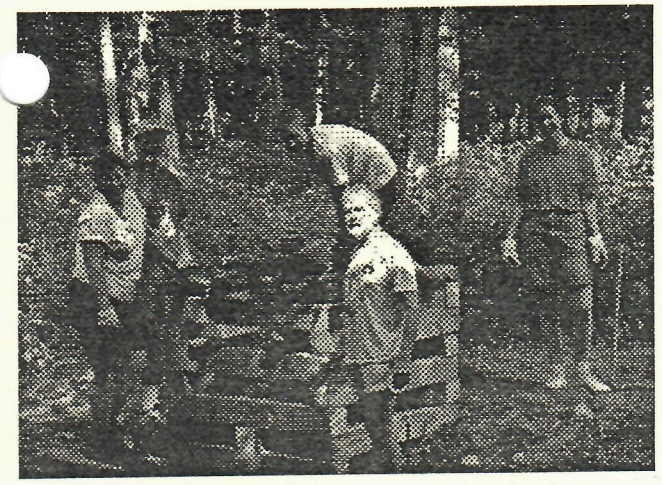
Some people, including me, have joked that if this is the greenhouse effect – bring it on. Our long winters can be tiring. However we must remember that the greenhouse gases we put into our atmosphere (due to fossil fuel combustion and deforestation) will be there for at least 100 years and there does not appear to be any trend suggesting a reduction in emissions. Energy use and gas emissions in the U.S. still exceed any other developed country. Several developing countries such as India and China are just entering their industrial revolution. It is quite likely that greenhouse gas concentrations will continue to rise for some time. Thus it appears that we have changed the climate on Earth for ourselves and for our children's children.

As has been pointed out, we are subjecting our planet, the Earth, to an uncontrolled experiment. And we have little knowledge what the outcome may eventually be. Scientists have discovered a number of feedback mechanisms that suggest once greenhouse warming is underway it will cause itself to accelerate. For example the thinning of the tundra permafrost causes the release of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Increase concentrations of methane in the atmosphere would accelerate warming. Warming would accelerate permafrost thinning and so on.

The problems humanity faces including climate change, overpopulation, habitat destruction, loss of biological diversity and landscape level pollution need to be addressed immediately. Talks are in progress on the reduction of CO_2 as a result of Kyoto resolutions – but the U.S. refuses to provide leadership offering only minimal reduction in emissions. It is true that our living standard is due to fossil fuels. It is also true that the fossil fuel industry is a very strong lobby, but we still need to allow fossil fuel alternatives to be developed. The fossil fuel industry should be pleased to lend a helping hand because it is their planet too and their children will have to live on it. Clearly we must support the development of alternatives to a predominately fossil fuel based economy.

Richard L. Wyman

Volunteers From Afar



Lesley, Rick, Tom, Dave, and Sharon begin

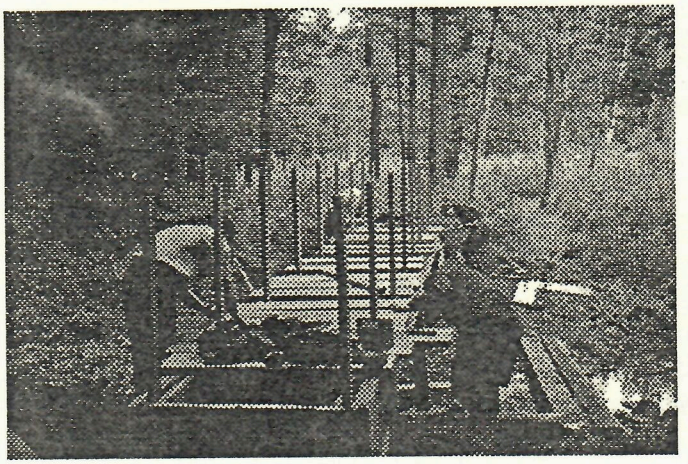
Keeping bridges and trails open around the Huyck Preserve are a never-ending concern. Over the past few years, flooding and high winds have washed bridges away and made trails hard to negotiate. This year, we were fortunate to host a group of British volunteers to help in the construction of a bridge that in the past has washed away several times.

The four volunteers were members of a group called the British Trust for Conservation Working Volunteers (BTCV). The program recruits volunteers to work on the maintenance of trails internationally. The volunteers called it "a working holiday", a vacation with fun work. Lodging and food were supplied in exchange for task that was about to be presented before them.

The task was a 32-foot bridge that spanned Ten-Mile Creek on the backside of Lincoln Pond. This area has been a problem for some time. High waters and a large flood plain make it difficult keep any small structure in place. The bridge had to be high enough and sturdy enough to withstand whatever might come it's way. It was no small task. Just hauling the lumber out to the site was a major task.

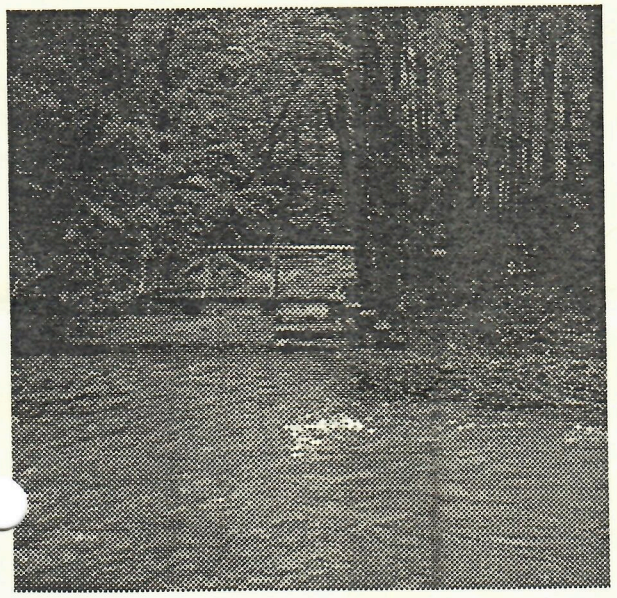
After four days of "holiday", the work was complete. The volunteers from Great Britain, along with volunteers from the community and staff from the Preserve had worked together to make this international oject a success.

The group also had some free time to sight-see. They toured the Catskills, enjoyed walks and learned about the plants, animals and geology of the area. They also enjoyed a lobster dinner, something that they had never eaten before. It was amusing to watch them try to crack into one.



Volunteers and staff working on bridge

The Test...



Floyd tests bridge

A few weeks ago, tropical storm Floyd rolled through dropping 12 in. of rain in our area. Flood waters were high and 50 mph wind took trees and power lines down. As waters rose, so did concerns about our newly built bridge. Late that evening, a beaver dam further up stream gave way sending an enormous amount of water down stream. The water flooded over Pond Hill Road, eventually washing the road out and leaving a 48-ft. gap in the road, 8 feet deep. All our fingers were crossed. In the morning, we walked around to access the damage. The bridge was still there and in good shape. There were signs of the water coming just short of the top of the bridge and heavy flooding all around it. It passed its first test.

We would like to send our thanks to the British volunteers Dominick Lamb, Lesley Hollands, Dave Hanlon, Tom Summer, our community volunteers Jack Barker and Sharon McGuiness, and the generous member of the preserve and Rural NY Grant who funded the project.

John McGuiness

Invasive Plants Focus of Youth Nature Study

Area youth participating in the E.N. Huyck Preserve Nature Study Program in Rensselaerville this summer were involved in a Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County project related to the plant, purple loosestrife. It was part of a non-native invasive species study designed to educate individuals about the problems associated with introduced plants.

Nature Study group with bags of purple loosestrife

Invasive species are introduced and spread throughout the United States from other parts of the world. Of the thousands of introduced species, 1400 are recognized as pests and 94 kinds are officially recognized as Federal Noxious Weeds. Invasive plants such as purple loosestrife infest over 100 million acres and continue to increase by 8 to 10 percent annually. In particular, invasive plants are recognized as a direct threat to agricultural production and biodiversity. In fact, two-thirds of all threatened and endangered plant species are threatened by invasive species. Invasive plants cause billions of dollars in lost annual revenue and control costs.

Purple loosestrife is an erect, hardy perennial most easily identified by its showy, magenta flowers that appear from July to September. Their stems are stiff, 4 to 6 sided, and angular. Mature plants grow one-and-a-half to eight feet tall. Purple loosestrife flowers can produce up to two million seeds annually and while they spread principally by seed they can also spread from the underground shoots and roots of established plants.

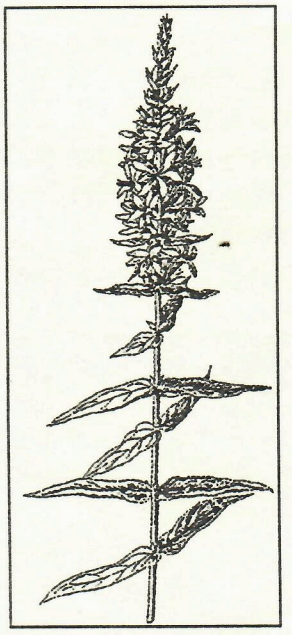
Purple loosestrife invades ditches, streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and other moist shallow freshwater sites. It will take advantage of sites where there are human disturbances to the landscape.

The youth shared this information in a presentation at the annual Science Symposium held at the Eldridge Research Center. The Preserve holds a symposium each year to highlight research projects occurring here. The junior researchers also discussed the ways purple loosestrife was introduced into this country. Some came deliberately because it reminded people of their homeland or accidentally when seeds were transported by items that immigrants or visitors brought with them. The youth encouraged the audience not to plant it around their houses. Unfortunately it has a pretty flower and people pick it as part of a wildflower bouquet. When they dispose them it spreads even more.

Their project also included removing purple loosestrife from the shores of Lake Myosotis on the Preserve to help control its spread. They were diligent throughout the summer, yanking it out whenever they saw it.

If you would like additional information about purple loosestrife please contact Marilyn Wyman at the Preserve at (518) 797-3440.

Marilyn Wyman



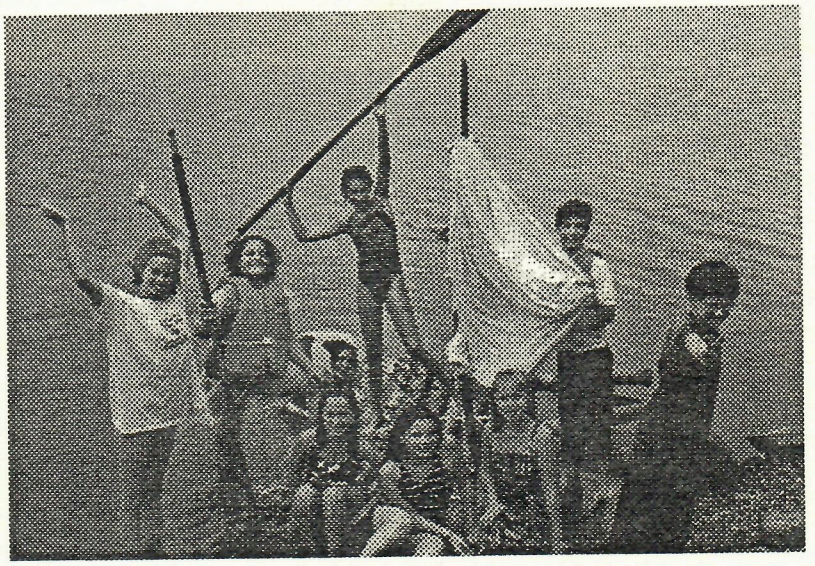
Purple loosestrife

Camp Kicks Off New Tradition

The first Environmental Education Camp was held this past summer with great success. Nine students spent one week on the Preserve, including a one-night sleepover, building an awareness of nature in many areas. The camp utilized a multi-faceted learning approach with a variety of "experts" coming to teach across the curriculum.

Middle school students participated in many activities throughout the week, including plenty of opportunities to have fun and take advantage of the beautiful natural resources the Preserve has to offer. Other special activities held during the week included:

- A creative writing and journal making class with local teacher, Bonnie Persico. Bonnie led the students in searching for creative expression using both the internal resources of each student and the external beauty surrounding them as motivation. The students created some highly skilled pieces of work and will hopefully take these skills with them into the future.
- Leslie Greist explored the world of Environmental Art using Andy Goldsworthy as a role model and example. Students examined works by this artist and determined the fundamental elements needed to work in this medium. Using the local stream as their "canvas" students created a collection of work, which abounded with imagination and creativity. The level of enthusiasm for this activity was apparent as students kept returning to their pieces in the days to follow.
- Nature photographer, Jackie Havens, conducted a session of photography instructing the students in the art of capturing beauty with a 35mm lens. Each student snapped a roll of film during a walk around the Preserve, with some very perceptive results.
- The science component of the week was conducted by Preserve Educators, Ted Watt and Barbara Barrett, who led an inquiry using the scientific method. The aim of the session was for the students to answer questions formed by themselves. Judging from the response, there are many budding scientists coming along in the future.



Campers triumphant aboard their raft

Students spent the remainder of time at the camp participating in a number of outdoor activities including swimming, playing games, hiking, building camp fires, and even building a raft! On the last day, students had to really pull together as a team to create a floating device with only raw materials and a time limit. They did the job admirably but the water was so cold that there weren't a lot of volunteers to stay aboard!

The camp ended with a BBQ at the lake where farewells were said to new and old friends. Due to the success of the program, the camp will be a regular feature of the summer and will hopefully grow in stature each year.

Deb Monteith

Preserve's First Elderhostel Program a Big Success

On October 3-8 the Huyck Preserve hosted its first Elderhostel Program. Elderhostel is a nonprofit organization committed to providing of high quality, affordable educational opportunities for older adults. They believe that learning is a lifelong process and that sharing new ideas, challenges, and experiences is rewarding in every season of life. The participants in our program came from all over the United States including Texas, Alaska, and California. We also had the pleasure of reintroducing Rensselaerville to someone who had last been here when he was six years old. His grandfather was an employee of Jessie Huyck where "he took care of her gardens".

The educational programs ranged from learning about the history and research at the preserve, "the enthusiasm for nature and teaching about it were outstanding", to creating their own stories based on life experiences, "stunning impact by the storyteller" to doing a historic tour of the hamlet, "we got the feeling of an in-depth knowledge of a small bit of almost vanished America". The programs provided a rich experience for our hostelers that reflected the collaboration of many community organizations and businesses, in particular the Rensselaerville Historical Society.

When the week was over, in spite of some cold and rainy weather, we had made new friends and new members, people who understood and appreciated the importance of the Huyck Preserve and enjoyed the unique and beautiful region where it resides.

Marilyn Wyman

Land Use Clues in the Forests

Often, I tell field trip classes that they are detectives. "Read the forest for clues," I tell them. "Look for animal signs." Children take to this very well. They are remarkably good at picking out evidence: tracks, nests, beaver "drags," insect galls—even scat. Lately, I've told them to look for the plentiful signs that people have been here as well.

In the northeast, few virgin forests remain. Virtually all the woods we see are re-growth forests, which have only grown back during the past century. Since the Huyck Preserve consists exclusively of once private lands, it can present a remarkable picture of local land use in the not so distant past.

Stonewall along Ten-Mile Creek

Stonewalls are by far the most common human sign that the student or hiker is apt to run across. Soils in the Helderberg region are filled with sandstone rocks and Devonian shale. These stones were obstacles to clearing and plowing land. Farmers dragged large stones to the edge of each field, then built stonewall boundary fences. Thus, a former impediment was transformed into a cheap and plentiful resource. Building and maintaining this form of fencing was labor intensive, so putting up stonewalls was largely abandoned with the advent of reasonably priced barbed wire.

A stonewall runs adjacent to the trails that connect Lake Myosotis and Lincoln Pond. Much is in unusually good condition. Over time, even well constructed walls lose segments due to frost heaves and erosion. These gaps provide homes for garter snakes, chipmunks, voles and spiders. Thus, stonewalls on the Huyck Preserve illustrate the interface between land use history and natural history.

A few areas of barbed wire fencing can be found on the Preserve. (One is near the stonewall that intersects the inlet to Lincoln Pond.) In contrast to sturdy stonewall, barbed wire fence falls quickly into disrepair if not maintained.

Camille Doucet, one of this summer's artists in residence, was fascinated with the twisted beauty of these remains—and the contrast between them and the surrounding natural world. This Lincoln Pond site inspired some lovely sketches.

While fences show the existence of old fields, trees provide insight into how those fields were cleared. It was customary for farmers to leave a nice shade tree up for pastured livestock. Often, but not always, this would be the tree that was quite large and difficult to clear. Therefore, that tree would remain. Adjacent trees were cleared for that particular field or pasture. Over the years, this large tree assumed mammoth proportions. (On field trips, its always fun to see how many children, finger tip-to-finger tip, it takes to span such a tree. Usually, it takes 3 to 4.)

These huge specimens are also valuable as a means to retool our perceptions. We are so used to seeing 8, 10, and 12-inch diameter trunks in local woods that we forget virgin timber easily grew to four or six times this size. These massive old trees give us a glimpse of the world the Iroquois and the colonials knew

Split trunk trees are also a clue to how settlers managed their pastures and fields. When a farmer left a stump instead of clear cutting, the remaining part of that tree sent up sprouts. If the tree was healthy, it completely regenerated. Those sprouts each developed into distinct trunks with a common root system.

Tree species, along with the lay of the land also provide clues to land use. For example, [illegible] kinds of trees in certain areas can pinpoint old family burial grounds. Families tended to choose a knoll not far from the main house. A suitable spot had relatively soft, well-drained soil away from streams. Since graves were hand dug, the soil also needed to be free of large rocks. Oak and Black Cherry trees on high ground may indicate those kinds of areas. Vegetation is important, too. Look for myrtle growing in the rich soil above graves.

The Wheeler-Watson cemetery, located on the Huyck Preserve, is a fine example of a late nineteenth century burial ground. A trail leading to this site can be found around the bend just west of Ordway [illegible]ouse on the right hand side of [illegible]ond Hill Road. This path is located at a break in the stonewall fence that runs parallel to the road. Look for a large "posted" maple tree to the left of this break. The burial site is at the crest of the knoll, approximately 100' uphill.

This cemetery is worth the climb. Like many local graveyards, it is enclosed in stonewall fence. Many markers are made from the same kind of fieldstone found in the boundary fence. This bestows a sense of visual continuity that the Wheeler-Watson cemetery shares with other local burial grounds.

One family also invested in wrought iron fencing to [illegible]stinguish their site from [illegible]thers. This was a common convention during the late Victorian era. Sections of this fence are stacked nearby awaiting reconstruction by the caretakers.

At this time, Art and Janet Wright of Delanson, NY painstakingly maintain the Wheeler-Watson cemetery. They make sure that the trail is clear, the markers are in good repair, and striplings are mowed from the burial ground. We applaud this preservation of history and habitat at the Huyck Preserve.

Where there is human habitation, there are foundations. The casual hiker can find at least two foundations on the Huyck Preserve, the best known being the remains of the Huyck Felt Mill by the base of the Rensselaerville Falls.

Built in 1870, the Felt Mill harnessed the waterpower of the Ten-Mile Creek to process local wool into papermaking felts. Francis Huyck (Edmund's father) and Waterbury were among the first people to develop the process that created a single seamless roll of felt. These large blanket-like rolls absorbed excess water from paper pulp. This innovation revolutionized newspaper production.

There is a bronze historical marker at the base of the foundation. Like stonewall, this foundation was constructed using dry-wall technique. This means that each stone was fitted together tightly, like a jigsaw puzzle. No mortar was used.

A second foundation lies next to the Ten-Mile Creek, approximately 75' above the bridge over the upper Falls. It was situated so close to the water that it was unsuitable for a house, because run-off would cause floods every spring. Was this an early water treatment plant? Contact the Preserve if you know.

Late fall is an excellent time to spot these not-so-hidden signs of human activity. The air is brisk and the leaves are down, so students and hikers don't have the cover and distraction of foliage. Something about the permanence of stone seems fitting at this, our most ruminative time of year.

I'll leave you where we started—on a "field trip." I am always amazed at how savvy our local kids are about the natural world. When asked, "Why is there stonewall in the middle of the woods," one or two always know: "Its because people built a field here."

> Hikers are reminded to stay on the trails for their own safety, to protect precious plants and habitats, and to safeguard vital research.

It doesn't matter how young these kids are--they walk with Mom, or hunt with Dad, or talk with Grandma. The point is they are learning to love the land, the things that walk and crawl on it and those that fly above it. And this is as it should be, because history—be it natural history, or human history—requires that we look forward at the same time we look backward.

Barbara Bolster-Barrett

Please renew your Preserve membership for the year 2000 if you haven't done so already. You are an important part of our efforts!

Joseph Dever

Greetings from our New Staff Member

Hello everybody! It's been a great honor to be hired by the Huyck Preserve as the Director of Development and Administration. This new position will allow the preserve to consolidate and delegate some administrative duties and allow us to pursue fundraising and organizational development initiatives that we have not been able to investigate in the past.

In my first two months, Dr. Wyman, board members and other staff, and myself have delved into financial and budgeting issues and have prepared for a Board meeting and Staff/Board strategic planning retreat to help chart the direction of growth for the organization. I have also taken some time out to hike around the preserve, meet and get to know the staff, and introduce myself to as many of the residents of Rensselaerville and the surrounding countryside as possible. So far, I've had a great time at an art gallery show opening, a volunteer firefighters fundraising breakfast, a Conkling Hall swing dance fundraiser and even an evening at the tavern of the Palmer house! I have felt extremely welcomed by the staff and townsfolk and am thrilled to be working in such a diverse, friendly, and close-knit community.

On a broader scale, I am very happy to be returning to the Northeast, as I was born and raised in Boston. After receiving a B.A. degree in Psychology and Environmental Studies from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, I worked for several international development and environmental organizations in Washington, D.C. and Kenya. I received an M.S. degree in Agronomy from Iowa State University in 1994 and after working on rural development and sustainable agriculture issues in Iowa, I did similar work in many countries in the developing world with Catholic Relief Services. I then returned to Iowa in 1997 to serve as Dubuque County Extension Director for Iowa State University Extension and, more importantly, to get married to my Iowa-born fiancée, Penney Hughes.

Our sadness about leaving Iowa is matched by our excitement about moving out to the rural Northeast and by my professional satisfaction in working at an organization with explicit environmental education, research, and conservation-based goals. I look forward to meeting you all as we at the Preserve continue to offer you rewarding educational and recreational opportunities while at the same time promoting conservation and ecosystems research.

Joe Dever

Preserve staff invites everyone to a post-holiday Open House at the Mill House on January 8, 2000. See calendar on back page for details.

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Marilyn Walters Wyman, Educational Coord.
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Barbara Bolster Barrett, Res. and Ed. Asst.
Ted Watt, Educational Assistant
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Benefits of Membership

- *Helping to insure that the trails to the falls and around Lake Myosotis are open and properly maintained*
- ✓ *Helping support scientific research on the natural world: ecosystems, biodiversity, the carbon cycle and global warming, natural habitats*
- ✓ *Helping to support an array of educational programs on natural systems for students from grade school through adults*
- ✓ *Helping to support the interface between art and science*
- ✓ *Helping to provide volunteer opportunities for educational and scientific work, and to introduce young people to scientific research*
- *Helping to protect the Rensselaerville water supply, its watershed, and the hamlet of Rensselaerville*

Please join the Huyck Preserve and support its work!

We thank those members who generously renewed their 1999 membership in the second half of the year.

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In memory of
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Robert Bouvier
Alice Caputo
Evelyn S. Elbers
Douglas Fraser
Philip A. Hilferty
Susan Holmes
William F. Hornick
Stanley Kellner
Dennis C. Martin
Donald K. McNeil
Edward L. Walls
Andrea Worthington

In memory of Revella Benson
Herman Benson

Upper Falls Bridge Replacement Fund
Hillel and Barbara Schiller

In the name and memory of
Sybil Jey Waldron
William A. Waldron

All the generous friends who supported the Rockhopper Benefit

Year 2000 membership renewals will be published next year.

Yes I (We) would like to support the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station by becoming a member. My (Our) gift of $_____ is a: *(Please check the appropriate box.)*

- ☐ One time gift paid in full with this payment.
- ☐ Quarterly pledge. My (our) first payment is enclosed.
- ☐ Gift of appreciated stock, real estate or other assets. Please contact me directly for details of transfer.
- ☐ I am interested in discussing a bequest to the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station.
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Membership Levels

Student	*$ 10.*
Individual	*$ 30.*
Family	*$ 40.*
Contributing	*$ 100.*
Sustaining	*$ 250.*
Patron	*$ 500.*
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Every gift counts, every gift is appreciated.

Name_____
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All gifts to the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station are fully tax deductible according to the laws governing 501(c)3 charitable organizations in New York State. As a donor, you will be acknowledged in our next newsletter FORGET-ME-NOT and receive a donor receipt sent directly to you for tax purposes.

The Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve
& Biological Research Station
P.O. Box 189
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

Calendar of Upcoming Activities and Events

January 8, 2000 – *Preserve Early Winter Warmer, an Open House,* 3-5 pm
Join Preserve staff for a post holiday welcome to the New Year
at the Mill House, Main Street, Rensselaerville. Refreshments and snacks – *Everyone welcome!*

January 15, 2000 – *Winter Hike,* 1-3 pm
Meet at Mill House, Main Street, Rensselaerville

February 5, 2000 – *Annual Groundhog Day Celebration,* 1-4 pm
Eldridge Research Center, Pond Hill Road, Rensselaerville, NY.
Winter activities on the Pond. Refreshments for sale.

March 25, 2000 – *The Man Who Planted Trees* (video), 2 pm
Eldridge Research Center, Pond Hill Road, Rensselaerville.
Discussion will follow on how individuals can make a difference.

April 22, 2000 – *Forum on Environmental Concerns – Local and Global Issues.*
Time to be announced, Eldridge Research Center.

June 3, 2000 -- *Birdwalk*, 7 am, Meet at Eldridge Research Center
Trail Day, 9:30 am trail clearing activity, Meet at Mill House
On the Wing, 1-5 pm, Birding activities and workshops, Eldridge Research Center

M.E. Didio
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