



Flanders Village Historical Society

www.flandersvillagehistoricalsociety.org

P.O. Box 1968, Flanders, N.Y. 11902

A 501(c)(3) organization that encourages, promotes and disseminates an understanding and appreciation of the historical and cultural heritage of the hamlet of Flanders.

January 1, 2025

Dear Flanders Village Historical Society Members and Friends:

We hope that you and your families are looking forward to a Happy and Healthy New Year. We are celebrating a few achievements this past year, including the recent satisfaction of our debt for the rebuilt website that remains a valuable local resource. It incorporates the information on the former version with several new features.

Because we have continuing expenses such as website manager fees, we are sending a friendly reminder that annual dues are payable on January 1, 2025. If you have not renewed yet, please consider doing so now by mailing a check to FVHS, P.O. Box 1968, Flanders, NY 11901. Now you can also pay through PayPal on our website.

In the fall of 2023, we curated and hosted an exhibit of 16 "Historic Photographs of Flanders" at the David W. Crohan Community Center. This was made possible by a cultural grant we obtained from the town. We are pleased to announce that, this coming year, we are taking this show on the road. The exhibit will be shown at Town Hall during February and March, at the Hampton Bays Library during August and the Hampton Bays Historical Society in September and October.

During this past summer, in conjunction with Friends of The Big Duck, we held our *Second Annual Tag Sale Fundraiser* at Big Duck Ranch. Since it was even more successful than last year (although a tremendous amount of work!) we are planning another such sale for this coming summer. Gently used donations of household items and furniture are welcome (no clothes) as are more volunteers to help set up and break down.

The town is planning to preserve the Griffing farmhouse on Methodist Point (ca. 1890). The property was purchased with CPF funds, but under a policy that takes into consideration its historic value. Since this is a familiar view along Flanders Road, we continue to have high hopes for its restoration and future use, which may even include a home for the Flanders Village Historical Society and local artifacts.

Although the Berti/Goodale house was demolished, the barn behind the Oscar Goodale house is being adapted by the town to a welcome kiosk for the nearly finished catwalk overlooking Reeves Bay. The FVHS trustees got a sneak peak, and the views are breathtaking along this secluded path. Thank you FRNCA for having spearheading this project years ago.

Right across the street is our historic Flanders United Methodist Church (ca. 1840), which was stewarded by the Fox family for decades. The church has new owners who are sprucing up the outside. We trust that they will respect the church's history and hope to work with them on getting a grant for installing an historic marker on the right-of-way.

To keep moving forward, we need to increase our membership (welcome to Rich, Lisa and Ian). Please consider sending the attached application to a friend or neighbor who is interested in local history and supports the preservation of our hamlet's historic resources. Individual membership is \$20. New members who choose a family membership for \$30 will receive a free copy of the children's book, *Duckhampton*, by Christian McLean.

Thanks for your past membership. We hope you will continue to support our efforts in preserving the history of Flanders. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting at the David W. Crohan Community Center on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:45 PM. Please see the website for future meeting dates.

Sincerely,
Janice Jay Young
Secretary, FVHS
flandersvillagehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com
631-284-3737

cc President Timothy Ganetis, Vice President Stanley Jeryga, Treasurer Lorraine Pacleo, Trustee Mary Cunningham