

Friends of Schoolhouse No. 12
St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum
State Highway 345
Madrid, NY 13660

Dear Friend of the Schoolhouse:

Welcome as a Friend of Schoolhouse No. 12! You have been identified because you visited and signed our register at one of the previous June or Fall Harvest gatherings. **Please join us for a meeting of the Friends at the the Schoolhouse on July 12th ... 1:00 pm.**

Enclosed is the report from last fall showing you the accomplishments of summer 2013 and the tasks that are scheduled for completion this summer so the Schoolhouse can be dedicated at the Fall Harvest Days, Labor Day Weekend, 2014. Achievement of the goals in restoring this building has been dependent on volunteer help and **we need you**. In addition to the exterior and interior work described in the report, the Friends will begin to build the curriculum that will provide Schoolhouse experiences for visitors of all ages.

One essential task involves the cleaning and sealing of the interior walls to preserve their original appearance. A cleaning crew is needed on June 28th for the work day at the Museum. The fun begins at 9:00 am. We hope to be finished by noon. Please lend a hand with this job. "Many hands make light work." Roger Austin will organize this effort (344-7470 or rsaustin123@earthlink.net).

We hope that you will join us at the June 14th and 15th Exhibition this year. The Schoolhouse will be open and the Friends' Chair school marm Judy Liscum will greet you. She will have her books, *Stepping Back in Time : Tales from the Country Schools* with her at the special price of \$15 each. The money from these sales is donated to the Museum for restoration of the schoolhouse. You may contact Judy at 386-3867.

To have the Schoolhouse activities underway as soon as possible after the dedication, Judy will be visiting area schools to explain programs that are available. A school marm will greet students, provide a tour and teach lessons of the times when the one room schoolhouses were open.

This past winter we have been collecting patterns and fabrics for costumes that children may wear during their visits. Mary Jean Chester will be leading this effort. She needs seamstresses to sew sunbonnets for the girls and caps for the boys. Pinafores and vests will be wanted to complete the outfits. Mary Jean's e-mail is rmjchester@slc.com if you have fabric or sewing time for the project.

Aspirations for the Schoolhouse are as varied as the folks who will contribute as volunteers. Another program for adults could involve recording the stories you can tell of your own adventures in a one room schoolhouse. Displays of the artifacts of area schoolhouses will be needed. If you have appropriate photos, book or teaching materials, please let us know at the Schoolhouse.

My task is to communicate to you the ongoing work and to recruit you for the jobs to be done. The most efficient and economical approach will be to build a more comprehensive list of e-mail addresses and if you can add your name contact me at migrutley@gmail.com . If you have a friend or neighbor who is not receiving this letter, give me their mailing address; my mailing address is 325 Cold Brook Drive, Colton, NY 13625. Or simply sign the Schoolhouse register, providing all information requested, on your next visit to the Museum; I'll take it from there!

Sincerely,

Mary S. Rutley
for *Friends of Schoolhouse No. 12*