

Dutch Barn Preservation Society e-news, 8 November 2013

Dutch Barn Preservation Society 2013 Annual Meeting
Saturday November 23, 2013, 10:00 am-1:00 pm at the Bronck Museum

Open to All Members and Past or future Members! Tour the historic Dutch Barn & Stone and Brick Houses. There is a donation required of \$3 per person. **rsvp**

The Bronck Museum
Greene County Historical Society
Rt. 9W (518) 731-6490
Coxsackie, NY 12051 gchsbn@mhcable.com

DBPS Meeting in the Vedder Library 10-11; Tour: 11:00-1:00.

We need a count for the Bronck House, so please let me know if you are coming- RSVP to nedpratt66@aol.com, or leave a message on my machine, 518-432-0220. We will have an optional Dutch treat luncheon after the tour in nearby restaurant- details forthcoming.

Our annual Meeting includes Board and Officer Elections. We have a number of Board members and volunteers who have contributed a lot of time in past years but are unable to continue at that level- so we could really use a few members willing to help with tours-both thinking them up and helping to set them up, and writing articles for the newsletter.

Plus, we need a few new Board Members- consider starting with a small commitment and see how you like it. If you can help, please let us know- contact President Ned Pratt, nedpratt66@aol.com, or any of the officers- Walter Wheeler, Vice President; Keith Cramer, Treasurer; or Secretary Thomas Lanni.

The Bronck Complex is a fascinating and important set of early buildings-however, at this time of year, the buildings are not heated, so dress accordingly. The Meeting will be in the Library, which will have heat.

From the Greene County Historical Society [GCHS] Website [with minor editing, mostly for length, by NP], <http://www.gchistory.org/bronckmuseum.html>:

The Bronck Dutch Barn is an excellent representative of New World Dutch barn Architecture. Dutch barns were specifically suited to a farm economy based on wheat production. This barn retains its massive anchor beams supported by columns linked together with 50' long purlin beams which support the weight of the roof. The early thrashing floor with pegged 3 inch thick oak planking remains intact.



Dutch Barn



13-Sided Barn [Bronck Museum photos]

The polygonal, 13 sided barn, built in the 1830's is the oldest documented multisided barn in New York. The weight of the roof of this unusual structure rests solidly on its thirteen sides. The only interior framing, apart from the side walls, is a single center pole



ned pratt photos, 2008

Pieter Bronck's single room stone house, center photo above, built 1663, is believed to be the oldest surviving house in the Hudson Valley. This simple sturdy one room stone structure is an excellent example of the utilitarian dwellings favored by many of the first Northern Europeans to settle the valley. The brick house built in 1738 by Leendert Bronck, right, possesses the rawboned elegance that distinguishes classic Dutch colonial dwellings. This spacious three story home is graced with patterned brickwork, a steely sloping roof, and "mousetoothed" parapet gables. Both dwellings and the diminutive Kitchen Dependency are filled with eighteenth and nineteenth century family furniture, regional art, textiles, and household furnishings. The inviting interiors of the Bronck homes prompt visitors to inquire "when can we move in?"