



# The FERRYMAN

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VOLUME XV, No. 3

DOBBS FERRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
12 Elm Street, Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522 (914)-674-1007

DECEMBER 1999

## A Holiday Double Bill -- First, The Clara Mead Eggnog Party, Sunday, December 12th

Once again the time has arrived to celebrate the upcoming holidays, and the afternoon of Sunday, December 12th will offer two delightful ways to get in the proper spirit: first, by enjoying the Eggnog Party given by the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society, and following that, by attending the annual Washington Irving Celebration at Zion Episcopal Church.

As has by now become a village-wide tradition, the eighth annual Clara Mead Eggnog Party will be held from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Mead House, 12 Elm Street. This party is sponsored by the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society for its members. However, non-members who may wish to attend may join the Society at the party. Current members who have not yet paid their 1999-2000 dues may do so at the event.

During the latter thirty-six years of her life, Clara Mead always hosted an eggnog party in her home for her circle of friends. The Historical Society continues her long-established tradition in grateful memory of her generosity in bequeathing her home to it.

Miss Mead's now-famous "secret" eggnog recipe is

carefully followed and served along with other tasty treats.

In recent years, there has been comment that the eggnog gets better each holiday season. This is true and is due to the expert blending of ingredients by Vice President Fred Staats, who maintains strict quality control every step of the way.

Still, there are some who prefer a fruit punch, which is given the same careful attention by Vice President Warren Gardner.

The warm and cheery atmosphere is from the efforts of Charlotte Frankenthaler and Virginia Gagliardi and their volunteers, who have provided the decoration for years, with the capable assistance of Gabriele Grunebaum, our supervisor of housekeeping.

Following the party, the second delightful entertainment awaits at Zion Episcopal Church at 5:30 p.m., where its annual Washington Irving Holiday Celebration will be presented (complete with wassail bowl and goodies of all kinds). The Church is located on the hill at 55 Cedar Street, just east of the corner of Cedar and Main Streets.

## And Afterwards -- The Washington Irving Holiday Celebration at Zion Church

Zion Episcopal Church and the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society will co-sponsor their annual holiday celebration of Washington Irving (1783-1859), famed 19th century author. The program is a community event celebrating some aspect of Washington Irving's life and holiday traditions.

This year's program is entitled "Washington Irving and the Knickerbocker Christmas: Olde New York and the Holidays". Zion Church, founded by Irving in 1833, is the oldest house of worship in Dobbs Ferry, and overlooks the Hudson River so loved by Irving.

In 1809 Washington Irving wrote his fictional "History of New York", supposedly narrated by Diedrich Knickerbocker. In many ways Irving popularized the image we

carry to this day of 'Olde New York' under the Dutch. Among the customs described are the story of St. Nicholas and the celebration of Christmas, which quickly became a part of the American holiday tradition.

This is the tenth annual Washington Irving Celebration, which has become a popular part of the holidays in the lower Hudson Valley. Local actors and members of the community will read selections from Irving's writings and traditional holiday carols will be sung by candlelight. The church will be decorated in the 19th century style and a reception in the parish hall will follow the program. Children are welcome and admission is free. For more information please call Fr. Richard McKeon at 914-693-9320.

## The Life and Times of 1900 as Seen by the Dobbs Ferry Register

As Dobbs Ferry slips into the year 2000, the columns of the *Dobbs Ferry Register* give us a glimpse of the life and times a century ago in 1900.

Celebration of the first week of the year 1900 was a quiet one for many. On New Year's Eve, church services prayerfully marked the stroke of 12.

The Register also informed its readers that "the pinochle tournament at the Mohican Club is progressing favorably," and that "the Club saw the old year out and the new year in with proper festivities. A large number of members and friends enjoyed a jolly celebration which was accompanied with plenty to eat, drink, and smoke."

### 100,000 Barrels of Beer

There is no mention of the convivial fellowship of saloons. Perhaps the editor of the *Register* thought it best to let this go unreported. Still, there was no shortage of beer in the Village. The Anchor Brewery was the Village's largest business, producing 100,000 barrels of good German beer annually -- not all for local consumption, of course.

There were those who celebrated outside the Village. The *Register* reported, "Among the Dobbs Ferry young men who made merry New Year's greetings Monday evening were Messrs. Hugh Thornton, Wm. J. McKeon, Fred Ravekes, James A. Collins, James Byrnes and John J. Hart".

New York City provided many cultural activities including opera, concerts, and museums. Transportation by train and by the horse drawn Tally-Ho coach was good.

Locally, there was sledding and skating. The *Register* reported the ice was good at local ponds and at Woodlands Lake. Skaters turned out in droves. Speeders were advised that Van Cortland Lake was the place to go.

But ice was a business as well as a sport and dealers were busy cutting blocks for storage for sale next summer.

The *Register* also reported a near train wreck at Dobbs Ferry Station. Steam locomotives required frequent additions of water, and it was the job of the fireman to get it from towers along the line. For some undisclosed reason on that January evening, the fireman's aim with the water crane was off, the crane hit a car and wreckage fell on the middle track, shutting down the railroad.

The same issue of the paper told of Professor Burton, who inspired by "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," composed a cantata that was in rehearsal with the Choral Union of Yonkers. The work was described as "extremely pretty and interesting".

What was on the agenda for local government as the new year began? The Dobbs Ferry Board was happy to report that it had enough money in the operating fund to

pay bills. At the closing of 1899 there had been some question about this. It was also reported, there was the matter of a new sewer line on Walgrove Avenue that would, of course, empty into the Hudson River. And then there was the question of some forgetful doctors who had failed to report births and deaths to the Board of Health.

While turn-of-the-century doctors made house calls, staying healthy with 1900 medicine was a challenge. Like today, there were self medicators, and advertising was aimed at them.

Village elections in 1900, as today, were in March and were hard fought. Cartoons in the *Register* tell the story. There was little charity shown to losers.

Then, as now, the presidential election was in the fall. While President McKinley was expected to be re-nominated by the Republicans, who would be his vice-president? New York State governor Teddy Roosevelt, the Rough Rider of San Juan Hill, looked like a good bet for even higher office.

Would the Democrats again nominate William Jennings Bryan, who had been defeated by McKinley in 1896? They did, and the Republicans nominated McKinley and Roosevelt.

### McKinley Elected

By year's end, McKinley would be President and Roosevelt Vice President. The vital issues of the campaign listed by the *Register* were: Keep the flag flying -- Keep the mills open -- Keep the gold standard -- Keep McKinley prosperity -- Rebuke anti-imperialism -- Rebuke dishonest currency -- Rebuke free trade -- Rebuke Bryan and Croker.

The losers, Bryan and Croker, had charged the Republicans with imperialism and wanted cheaper currency based on silver as well as free trade. Their slogan was the full dinner pail which also became the Republicans' slogan.

In January the *Register* reported the death of Civil War heroine Theresa Conlin and in November, Henry Villard. Theresa Conlin left the Village to nurse her soldier husband stricken with typhoid. Then, for the duration of the war she ministered to soldiers in hospitals, camps, and on the battlefield. Henry Villard, war correspondent, financier, and railroad builder, was known internationally, and his career has been covered in past issues of *The Ferryman*.

*The material covered in this piece is only part of what was reported in the Register for the year 1900. The illustrations and the advertising give us further insights. At right we are reprinting a sampling of the fascinating graphics.*



# J. M. Ackerman

MAIN STREET, DOBBS FERRY.



- Fancy Candles..... 40 each
- 1 gal. Glass Oil Cans..... 25c each
- A good Oil Heater..... \$1.75 each
- No. 7, Busy Bee Range..... \$10.00
- Best Shells, 12 guage..... .50c box
- A good Gun..... \$7.00
- Golf Balls..... 20c each
- Good Varnish..... 25c can
- White Enamel..... 15c can
- All kinds Varnish Stain..... 15c can
- Tar Paper per roll..... \$1.00
- Glazed Coal hods..... 25c
- All kinds of Hardware at Lowest Cash

## "GLOVE-FITTING" CORSETS.

BECAUSE OF THEIR TRANSVERSE SEAMS. THEY FIT AND FEEL LIKE A FINE KID GLOVE.

FROM \$1.00 TO \$5.00 A PAIR.



A big variety from.

DOBBS FERRY N. Y. MARCH 23, 1900.



Joseph V. Langenberg  
Hot Water and Steam Heating,  
**PLUMBING AND VENTILATING**  
Gas Fitting and Greenhouse Heating.  
Main Street, Dobbs Ferry

**T. A. JEWELL,**  
DEALER IN  
Ladies' Gent's and Children's Boots and Shoes.  
Repairing Neatly, Cheaply and Promptly Executed  
Buttons put on with Wilkin's Pat. Button Fastener  
Main Street, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.

**OXFORD -- MARKET**  
**C. WEISS,**  
Successor to L. METZGER & CO.,  
CHOICE MEATS AND POULTRY  
DOBBS FERRY, N. Y.

**N. LAWRENCE & CO.,**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN  
**GROCERIES & PROVISIONS**  
HARDWARE, CROCKERY, ETC.

**\$2.75 BOX RAIN COAT**  
A REGULAR \$5.00 WATERPROOF RAIN COAT FOR \$2.75.



Send no money. Cut this ad. out, state your height and weight, state number of inches around body taken over vest under coat, close up under arms, and we will send you this coat by express, C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine and try on at your express office, and if exactly as represented and the most wonderful bargain you ever saw or heard of and equal to any \$5.00 coat on the

# Dobbs Ferry Register.

## SHOP

Upper Main St., Dobbs Ferry



- Heating stoves \$4 to \$15
- Stove pipe and elbows, each 15c
- Dampers 15c
- Rings 10c
- Flue Stoppers 5c



"WHAT A COD"

NO. XVI. DOBBS FERRY N. Y. NOVEMBER 9, 1900. No. 46

### HOW I WAS STRUCK.

There are several ways of being sick. Sometimes you know what aches you, and some times you don't. The effect is the same. Recently a gentleman met me on the street, and, after the usual greeting, he said: "Mr. Welch, I have been reading your article, and do you know I think it would be quite readable if you would get somebody else to write them for you?"

Why, what is the trouble with my article?

Well, he replied, "your syntax hangs on the fringes, or any adjuncts on rollers, or anything lumpy about it, or the workmanship is not all right. I was speaking about your Window Shade ad." "Well," I replied, "it is Window Shade that I am speaking of to my wife, and now keep your eye on the shade, for it is the paramount issue of my life."

In addition to my great Shade Business I am selling a great many Linens, Oil-Clothes, Mattings, Beds and Dining Furniture, Carpets, etc. etc. I have expert men to lay carpets and hang curtains.

— We make our own Window Shades on our premises.

**WILLIAM WELSH,**  
North Broadway,  
YONKERS.

**The Regent Tea Room**  
41 West 20th Street, New York.  
25th & 6th Ave., 18th St.  
25c. Lunch, 25c. Dinner, 35c.  
Succulent served, 12 to 3 p. m.  
Society, 25c. Dinner, 35c.  
For all the information of persons.

**Dr. David Kennedy's**  
**Favorite Remedy**  
FOR ALL BILIOUS STOMACH AND LIVER TROUBLES.

# McKINLEY AND ROOSEVELT



THE PARAMOUNT ISSUE, THAT WESTERN "MONTEBANK" BURIED!!!!



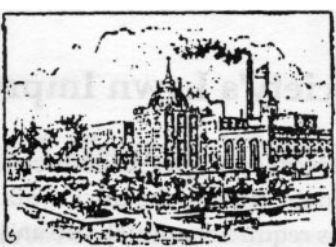
Found Philipp

By Br... is another of charming piece in thrilling romance and interest, it is a taining stories ever written.

The first of day's issue of sequent inst regularly. I story.

THE JAC





## Made in Dobbs Ferry

Many things bear the imprint "Made in Germany," but a few years ago a brewer took over some beer "Made in America," and it secured the gold medal prize in the home of beer making - Baden Baden. Our

## MANILLA BREW —AND— WURZBURGER

is made by this same brewer, its "MADE IN DOBBS FERRY."

**ORDER IT TODAY**  
**The Manilla Anchor Brewing Co.,**

DOBBS FERRY, N. Y. Tel. 37.

New York Office: 616 West 26th Street. Tel. 2574 38th Street.

SELIG MANILLA.

President and General Manager.

## P. J. GILLESPIE, CARPENTER and BUILDER



Maple Street, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.

AS CHEERFULLY GIVEN PERSONAL SUPERVISION GUARANTEED.

in the  
nes

Gen. Charles King,  
is popular author's  
of fiction. Abundant  
escapes, beautiful  
incidents of absorbing  
of the most enter  
ing. Gen. King ha.

apter appears in t.  
this paper, and sub-  
ments will appear  
n't fail to read this



Lawrence & Best,  
Livery, Sale and Boarding

STABLES,

MAIN BY DOBBS FERRY, MAPLE BY  
NEW YORK.

FIRST-CLASS CARRIAGES  
AND LIGHT WAGON

TO LET AT ALL HOURS.

CARRIAGES • MEET • ALL • TRAINS •  
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 206.

## This Man

BOUGHT HIS SHIRT OF US, AND IT

Bears Close Inspection



## Healthy Men

most have healthy kidneys first of all, because healthy kidneys filter all impurities from the blood. With rich, red blood coursing up and down the veins, a man must necessarily be well, strong and happy. The one medicine which cures Kidney, Liver, Bladder and Blood troubles, pain in the small of the back, frequent desire to urinate, especially at night; scalding pain in passing water and discolored urine, is

### Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy.

It is a medicine you can pin your faith to absolutely. There is no guesswork about it - no chance. It cures every case which can be reached by any human agency. This medicine is also a mild and pleasant laxative, helping the bowels to move in a perfectly natural way. It is as much than pills as gold is better than brass.

Edward Peckin, of 36 Central Street, Lafayette, Ind., 60 years old, suffered a long time with diseased kidneys and bladder. Often he had to get up fifteen times a night. The pains in his back were fearful. He sent for a sample bottle of Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy. The effect after using it was instantaneous. Then he bought two regular sized bottles, and cured him completely.

A large bottle of Favorite Remedy is sold by druggists for \$1, or six bottles

#### TRIAL BOTTLE FREE.

Send your name and address to the DR. DAVID KENNEDY, 1111 1/2th Ave., New York, N. Y.

#### TRY THIS TEST.

Put some urine in a glass tumbler and stand 24 hours. A sediment at the bottom, a cloudy appearance indicates diseased kidneys.



## Weak Women

Female Diseases are the result of general bodily weakness. You cannot overcome them by local treatment alone. You cannot cure the branches unless you first cure the roots. A sick woman nearly always has Kidney Trouble. There lie the roots of her suffering. The pain in her back can be traced there - So can her headache and nervousness. The wasting drains come from the same cause. Cure the Kidneys and you also cure the blood, and then the whole system will be built up and strengthened.

### Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy

is an absolute specific for Female Weakness and Diseases. It is a hundred fold better than "compounds" and "prescriptions" sold as women's remedies. One bottle often accomplishes more real, lasting good than a dozen bottles of anything else. Favorite Remedy is also the best known laxative, and cures that other "bane of womankind" - constipation.



Mrs. D. Ackerly, of Varick Street, New York City, writes: "I lay for eight months close to death with cancer of the womb, kidney and heart disease, and physicians gave me no hope. She took Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, and the headaches, backaches, pains and drains of years were lessened. She was completely cured."

A large bottle of Favorite Remedy is sold by druggists for \$1, or six bottles for \$5.

#### TRIAL BOTTLE FREE.

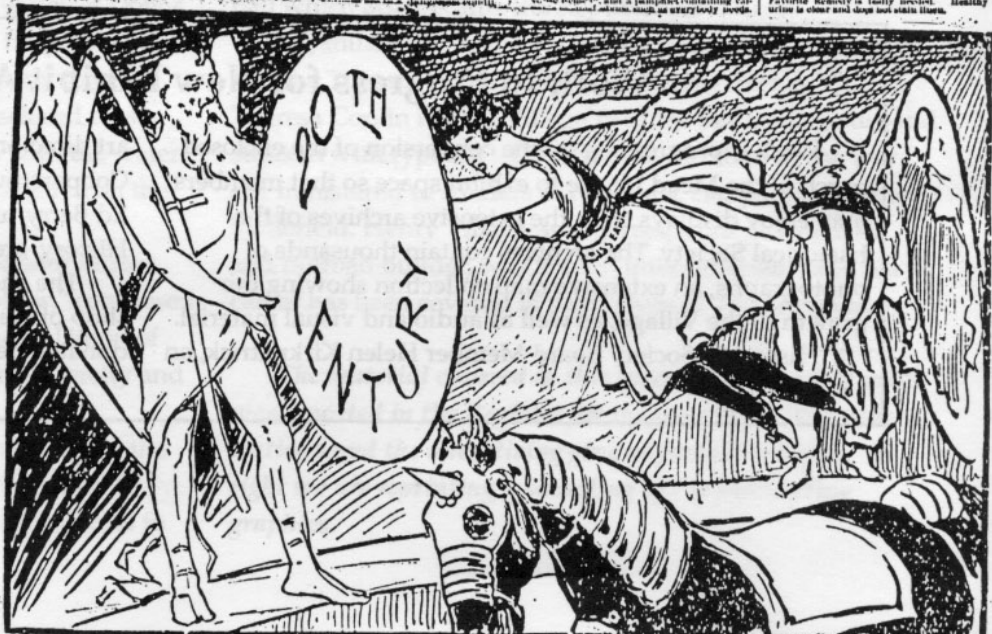
Send your name and address to the DR. DAVID KENNEDY (VIRGINIA), Housatonic, N. Y., mentioning this paper. You will receive by return mail, absolutely free, a trial bottle of Favorite Remedy, and a pamphlet containing valuable advice, such as urinary trouble.

#### TRY THIS TEST.

Put some urine in a glass tumbler and let it stand 24 hours. A sediment at the bottom or a cloudy, chalky appearance indicates that the kidneys are in a dangerous condition, and that Favorite Remedy is badly needed. Healthy urine is clear and drops not stain glass.



RABBIT CANDIDATE JUMPING FROM MOUNT TO MOUNT.



## Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry Donates \$4,500 for Society's Lawn Improvement

Through the generosity of the Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry, the lawns of the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society at the Mead House have been wonderfully improved. For the past several years the Garden Club raised funds by selling plants at the Grand Union. \$4,500 of that money was donated to the Historical Society for landscaping and the installation of an automatic sprinkler system.

Before this work was done, the lawns were rutted and uneven. This was partially due to the collapse the sanitary system and the consequent work need to install a sewer line. There was also considerable erosion over the years.

The contractor, V. Civitano Landscaping Ltd., brought in heavy grading equipment and added 20 cubic yards of topsoil to the lower lawn and a like amount to the upper lawn. The renovated lawns were then seeded. The Automatic Lawn Sprinkler Co. installed a complete underground sprinkler system, including a rain sensor.

Both sides of the front steps at the Mead House have been beautifully improved by plantings already made by

the Garden Club. Next spring the Club is considering additional work to the right of the brick walk entering the property. Gardens require continual care and volunteer help will help keep the flowers blooming. Anyone wishing to volunteer for gardening chores next spring should contact the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society at 12 Elm Street and register now.

It is especially appropriate that the gardens of the Mead House will blossom again. Clara Mead, who bequeathed her home to the Society, loved flowers and during her lifetime maintained exquisite flower gardens. Through the effort, ability and generosity of the Garden Club it may all happen again.

The Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry was founded in 1923, as a working gardener's group to benefit the members through study and appreciation, to benefit the community through conservation and environmental activities. It has worked for legislation to preserve our natural assets and to prevent desecration of our environment.

## Dobbs Ferry 1933 First in Series of Programs Planned for Membership

*Dobbs Ferry 1933*, a documentary, will be shown at the Mead House January 14th at eight o'clock, and will be the first of monthly Friday night programs for the membership.

Future Friday night programs are being planned and will be announced shortly, so mark your calendars for February 11, March 10 and May 12. Non-members wishing to attend may join the Society by completing membership applications at the door.

January's program, *Dobbs Ferry 1933*, is the story of how village residents survived the Great Depression and

coped, with the help of the churches, in the winter of 1933-34, so that no one went hungry or homeless.

Included are interviews with Larry DeRosa, Joe Delmerico, Milly Oths, Andy Serrell, and Goldie Gernivivo, as well as commentaries and readings by Don Marra, Barbara Pearce, Hank Walter, Frances Neil, and Kathleen Modrowski. The documentary, produced by Bill Blank and Barbara Pearce for the Historical Society, also contains film footage of a gigantic anti-depression parade billed as the biggest in the history of the village.

## Work In Progress for New Exhibit Area in Mead House

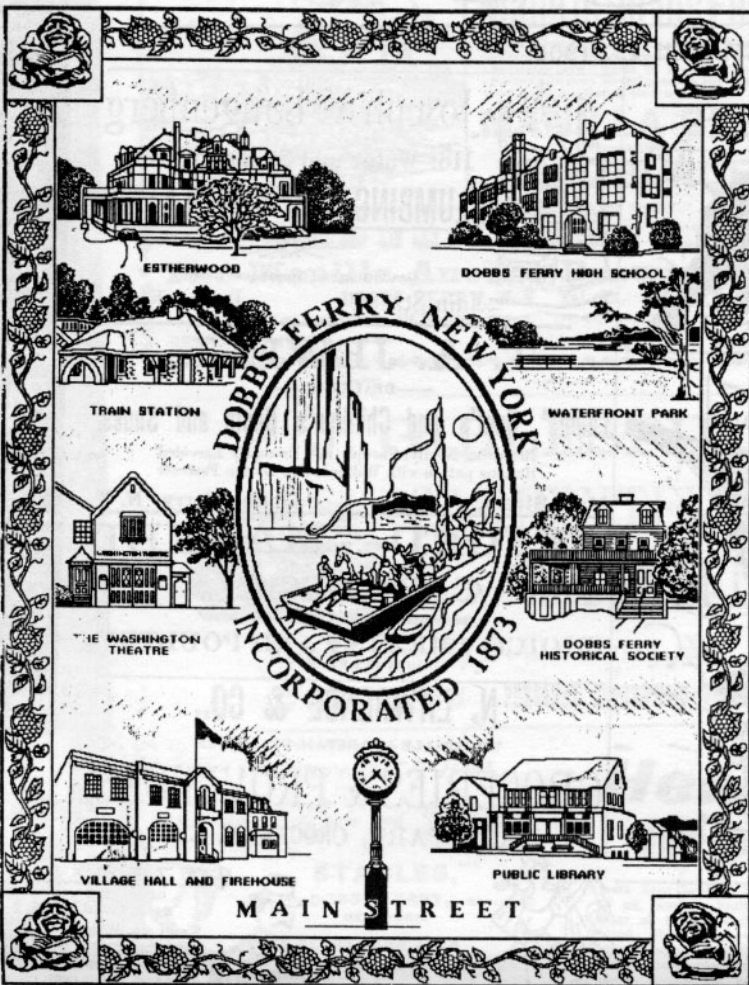
Work is progressing on the conversion of the enclosed porch of the Mead House to exhibit space so that members may enjoy displays from the extensive archives of the Historical Society. The archives contain thousands of photographs, an extensive map collection showing the growth of the Village, as well as audio and visual material.

Historical Society Board Member Helen Kirkpatrick, an

art director who planned the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., and Friend of the Historical Society Ed Berry, an architect employed by the Museum of Natural History, are planning the project.

The enclosed porch was once the woodworking workshop of Herbert Mead, the father of Clara Mead who donated her home to the society.





## Afghans: A Great Holiday and Graduation Gift

Because of the continuing popularity of our history throws, we are once again making them available at the holiday season. They can be ordered either in Cranberry Red or Williamsburg Blue.

Despite inflation, the Society is holding the price at \$45 dollars each.

The throws have been in constant demand every season of the year as they make ideal holiday, birthday and graduation presents. With high school graduation just months away, it's not too soon to order now.

Evoking pleasant sentiments and fond memories of living here, each afghan depicts the High School, the Railroad Station, Waterfront Park, the Mead House, Village Hall and the Firehouse, the Public Library, Washington Theatre, national landmark Estherwood, and the Main Street sidewalk clock. These scenes surround Jon Neilsen's well known woodcut of William Dobbs and his Ferryboat sailing towards the Palisades.

Dobbs Ferry Historical Society  
12 Elm Street  
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ throw(s) @ \$45 each. Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Check color: Williamsburgh Blue  Cranberry Red

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER, PLEASE JOIN US NOW

## Dobbs Ferry Historical Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (eve.) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership 1999-2000 [ ] New [ ] Renew

[ ] Patron..... \$100.00

[ ] Friend..... \$ 50.00

[ ] Contributing..... \$ 25.00

[ ] Family..... \$ 15.00

[ ] Individual Adult..... \$ 10.00

[ ] Student/Senior (over 60)..... \$ 3.00

[ ] Junior (Students under 16)\* ... No fee

Please make check payable to, and mail to:  
DOBBS FERRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
12 Elm Street  
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522  
Telephone (914) 674-1007 (24-hour answering)

Membership contribution..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mead House Roof/Boiler contribution..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Newspaper Microfilming Project contribution... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL enclosed (TAX DEDUCTIBLE)... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] My employer's matching contributions form is enclosed.

\*Persons under 16 years of age must show parent's or legal guardian's consent for membership. Thus, if you have checked Junior membership above, please provide signature below.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Please check one: Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian