NOVEMBER 1976

TEN YEARS OF ARGUMENT

Some time soon the citizens of Piermont will receive an important piece of news. They at last will find out how much, if anything, the Continental Can-Federal Paperboard tax suit will cost them. As many recall, it was ten years ago that Continental Can, which then owned the paper mill and carton plant on the pier, brought suit against the Village and the Town of Orangetown, argueing that its property was overassessed. Continental petitioned for a lower assessment (meaning lower taxes). The case dragged on. In 1969 the company actually refused to pay its taxes, but finally relented and paid under protest. Then in 1972, Continental Can both rented its paper mill and sold its carton plant to Federal Paperboard Co. (which has since leased the carton plant to Clevepak Co.). Continental claimed it sold the carton plant for less then half as much as it was once worth, and both companies seriously argued that this steep drop in the plant's value entitled them an appropriate reassessment.

To the Village's other 650-odd tax-payers, the suit is also a serious matter. The Village tax bill this fiscal year comes to around \$455,000, of which \$105,000 or somewhat more than 23% is accounted for by taxes paid by Continental Can and Federal Paperboard. If the companies' taxes are reduced, the tax of every villager could obviously be increased. For every 10% reduction in the companies' taxes, Piermont resident taxes will be increased about 2.5%.

Now the affair is drawing to a close, "All the arguments," says Mayor Bryan, "are in the hands of the referee, Mr. Jerome Johnson of West Vyack." His verdict is expected to be announced shortly.

NEW TRUSTEES...

At their regualr meeting on October 25th, the Village Board accepted the resignation of Marge Spring as Village trustee and Katherine Smith was sworn in as her successor. With this action both trustees elected last March have been replaced. Frank Parelli died in May and was replaced by Don Cocker, as noted in the last issue of the NEWSLETTER. This creates a situation unique in Piermont history where all five trustees and the Mayor will be up for election in March.

In her letter of resignation Mrs. Spring referred to her "uncertain health and the demands of my work at Columbia" and stated that the step was taken "with great regret and with gratitude for the rich experience of working for the Village." In an interview after the Board meeting she explained that she had been unable to recover satisfactorily from an illness last summer due to her heavy work load. She is working on her Master of Science degree in Restoration and Preservation at Columbia School of Architecture. Piermont will not be losing the benefit of her efforts entirely, however, since the Village is the subject of her thesis.

With the swearing in of Katherine Smith the Village board gained a member with strong family ties to Piermont. She is a third generation Piermontese, her grandmother having moved here as a small child around 1865. Miss Smith has been active in Piermont civic affairs for years, and in fact missed the chance to be the first woman in Village government when she made an unsuccessful race for trustee on the Republican ticket a number of years ago. She was the first chairman of the Piermont Planning Commission and served in that post for four important

years. She is the Piermont representative on the Sparkill Creek Committee and a member of the board of the Community Playgroup. She was a board member and officer of the Piermont Civic Association for many years, and was the first treasurer of the Tappan Zee Thrift Shop. She is a department manager at IBM, with offices in Port Chester.

Don Cocker has been serving as trustee since June 3rd. Before becoming a trustee he served for three years on the Planning Commission. He is an officer in the Clarkstown Police Department, owner of the Twin Oaks Marine in Piermont, and with his father also manages the Tappan Zee Marina. In addition to his particular trustee responsibilities as Road Commissioner, Mr. Cocker brings to the Board valuable experience in boating, marinas and other matters relating to the river frontage.

PCA BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO BE HELD DECEMBER 9

Scheduled for 8:15 at the Piermont Library, the PCA will meet to discuss new directions and to install a new slate of officers.

The slate is:

President Douglas Brunson Vice President Ken Barnes Secretary-Treasurer Maggie Voorhees

Board:

Bo diFrancesca Marge Spring Bob Bradbury Mildred Burck Helen Norman

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

An amendment to the by-laws will be presented to give the Editor and Art Director of the NEWSLETTER Board member status.

At the last Board meeting held in September, a long discussion of the PCA's role and future in Piermont was held. The Board decided that the NEWS-

LETTER was the PCA's most important contribution to Piermont and that it must be continued. Increased membership to subsidize the NEWSLETTER is imperative. In 1976 under 100 families were paid PCA members, even though almost 1000 copies of each edition of the NEWSLETTER are sent to Piermont households. A membership drive will begin with an After-Theater party on November 19, at the Village Hall. Family membership dues of \$5.00 and a new NEWSLETTER subscription rate of \$2.00 is now available for 1977. (see center page for additional information)

Low attendance at the general meetings has prompted the Board to instead hold "open" Board meetings. Notices of Board meetings will be posted at the Village Hall, Library, and Post Office, notices will be mailed only to those who request them in order to reduce mailing and printing costs. All members are warmly welcomed to attend these meetings where the general business and plans of the PCA are discussed.

Popular PCA social events, the Annua Dinner in March, the Blue Grass Fair on Memorial Day and the Fall Business Meeting-Election will continue to be held. The PCA will continue to take positions on affairs vital to Piermont including speaking out on the problems of 9W. Community projects such as additional accoustical improvement to the Village Hall will be undertaken.

All are urged to attend the December 9 meeting. Let us know what your concerns about Piermont are, share your ideas for projects and meet your neighbors. The PCA is a community organization that welcomes all to membership. We seek to keep Piermonters in touch with one another and the issues facing our Village.

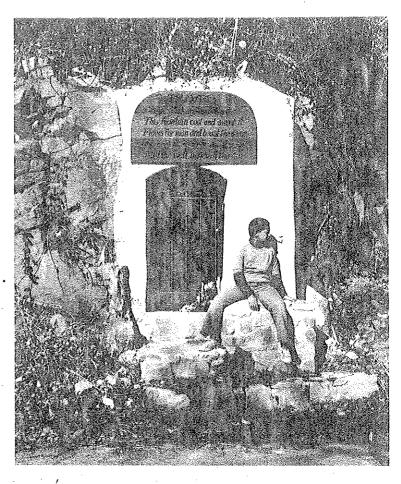
We think that the PCA is important to Piermont, we hope to have your support in keeping it that way. Send in your membership today!

(see center page for membership form)

MINEHOLE RESTORATION APPROACHES FINAL PHASE

Latest news in the restoration of Piermont's ancient minehole is that the spring water test by the County Health Department finds the water not suitable for drinking. Bryan asked the Health Department to sample and evaluate the water and was told that the bacteria and coliform counts were in excess of acceptable standards, though not sufficiently high to warrant sealing the spring. Mayer, Health Dept. spokeswoman, indicated that vast quantities of water would have to be drunk to cause problems for humans. No harm should be experienced by animals drinking the water. Piermont's year round source of un-chlorinated, un-fluoridated spring water, a rare commodity these days, will be checked periodically by the Health Department for any change.

The minehole shaft collapsed during work by Pellegrino Bros., the Piermont masonry firm that voluntarily and single-handedly has restored the landmark, so a barred fixed gate has been placed in front of the opening. The concrete work surrounding the shaft is now complete, waiting only for the hanging of the recreated wooden plaque, handsomely lettered by Louise Windisch. A small hole has been left in the base for the water to flow through. All that is



Gary Anderson visits the Minehole with its famous legend, restored.

needed is a stub of pipe and Piermont will have its legendary spring again.

PRESSURES IN ORANGETOWN SEWER LINE AFFECT PIERMONT

An unforeseen mystery in the operation of the recently-installed sewer line serving Nyack, Grandview and Piermont, has caused Piermonters some distress, but a remedy is being sought. The symptoms are unpleasant odors that occur in several areas along the Erie Trail and on Ash Street and Tate Avenue. The cause is unmistakably escaping sewer gas, which first became apparent during the summer, when Nyack's forced-pressure system coupled up with Piermont's gravity-flow system.

The fault lies somewhere in the pipe between Piermont and the sewage disposal plant in Orangetown, some 4 miles away,

according to Don Brenner of the Orangetown Department of Public Works. But the nature of the fault, causing sewage to back up in the pipe, is a mystery. The Town has contracted with one of the few firms able to investigate such phenomena. Within a month, Aqua-Line, Inc. will probe the pipe between Piermon and Orangetown in search of the stoppage

What if the trouble isn't discovered by the contracting company? Brenner stated, "It's possible that could happen and then we might have to dig up the pipe to find the obstruction. We're hoping it won't come to this, but we're determined to correct the situation, one way or another."

9W TRUCK PROBLEM - THE CONTINUING SAGA

Although you may have seen headlines in The Journal News saying that truck traffic on 9W had decreased by 13%, you'd be hard pressed to find anyone who lives in the 9W vacinity to agree. Piermont residents have just about had it with the free-wheeling truckers, bumping, grinding gears and SPEEDING on 9W.

Residents of "upper" and "lower"
Piermont complain of trucks tail-gating,
blowing horns loudly to try and get
motorists to exceed the posted speed
limit. Going in or out of a 9W driveway, Ash Street or Tweed Boulevard, can
be a life threatening experience. Add
the fact that our children are getting
on and off and riding in school buses
on 9W makes the safety of 9W everyone's
concern.

What can be done? The PCA was influential, along with other community groups in finally getting a school zone complete with flashing lights and a no-passing zone in front of Tappan Zee Elementary. Chief O'Shea of the Piermont Police is doing a fine job in enforcing that zone, ticketing trucks and cars that do not adhere to the 30 mph limit. The PCA was also well represented at a recent Orangetown Board Meeting, calling for 24 hour police enforcement of the traffic and safety laws on Orangetown portions of We have seen more Orangetown cars since this meeting and we wish to commend Supervisor Colello and Chief Nelke for responding to our very real problem.

Individual motorists can have a role in holding down the speed of traffic on 9W (and then perhaps some of those big trucks will start looking for another faster route) by traveling the posted speed on the road and not exceeding it.

Piermont cannot tolerate the ruination of a part of our community by the free-wheeling thru truckers who contribute nothing but pollution, noise and danger. So, slow down on 9W, obey the laws and continue to press for adequate police enforcement of traffic

laws and a further reduction of the speed to 35 mph, as is fitting for a residential zone. ■

6's AND 7's ON 9W

This past August, Route 9W was decorated with graffiti-like numbers. 6's and 7's were painted in day-glow spray paint on utility poles, guard rails, garages, retaining walls, mailboxes, and just about anything that was stationary from Piermont to Nyack.

Speculation on what it could be was varied. Some believed it to be another rash of vandalism, maybe with a Bicentennial theme. Perhaps the state was going to do some road work. Maybe Orange and Rockland was marking poles for removal and vandals extended the markings to confuse the crew as a practical joke.

One aware resident of Piermont figured it out. A couple of weeks previous to the graffiti, the same 6's and 7's had been painted on the pavement of 9W. They were done neatly in red, circled, and an arrow pointed to a driveway. Our resident figured it out after a few days while picking up The Journal News delivered daily. Seven day delivery... of course!

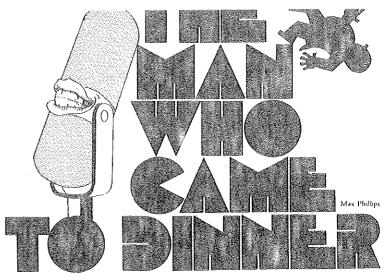
The massive graffiti was undertaken by the Journal News delivery person. He had just taken over the route and his unfamiliarity with 9W, and encountering the trucks and traffic while trying to find the appropriate place to toss his papers either 6 or 7 days of the week, was more than he could handle. He therefore made his route much easier at the expense of the residents and marked each driveway.

Mayor Bryan was informed of the situation, since individual complaints to the distribution manager of The Journal News got no satisfaction. Within a week of the Mayor's request to The Journal News the numbers were removed or covered and apologies were extended.

Just another example of the benefits of a free wheeling truck route through a residential community.

The Tappan Zee Repertory Company will perform The Man Who Came to Dinner in the Piermont Village Hall on November 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 and on December 3, 4, and 5. The Company is a professional non-equity theater group recently formed by Donna Lee Betz of Nyack, consisting of a core of about 30 who share acting, directing and production chores. Their first production was Cheers! done dinner-theater style at the Tappan Zee Inn. Although they plan to continue performing there the troupe was looking for a more permanent home.

When the Village Hall acquired its new stage curtain (the PCA's Bicentennial gift to Piermont) Mayor Bryan started looking for a theater group to perform, so her meeting with Donna Lee Betz and her company fit into everyones plans. Their first Piermont production is sort of a "trial," if the repertory company and the Village Board find the arrangement successful, two more plays will be performed in 1977. The Importance of Being Earnest in February/March, and Seven Keys to Balpate (a comic mystery) in May/June. Other future plans of the Tappan Zee Repertory Company include a series for channel 6 Cable Vision and a touring children's show for public and



private schools. Their long range goal is to find a permanent residence (maybe Piermont?) and establish a true resident repertory company.

Ticket price will be \$5.00 and may be purchased at the door or at Tomdia's Garden. The Village will receive 20% of the house gross in return for supplying the hall for rehearsals and performances.

On opening night, November 19, the Piermont Civic Association will host an after-theater celebration for the cast and all 1977 dues paid PCA members. The PCA welcomes the Tappan Zee Repertory Company to Piermont.

ON SOLID WASTE

There has been some talk in the Village recently about 'plans' by Clevepak Corp. to construct a solid waste disposal facility in Piermont. Visions are conjured up of a continuous stream of 'garbage' trucks from all over Rockland County rolling through Piermont's narrow streets. Cries are heard that noise and air pollution will result from the operation. And that Piermont, into which flows most of the liquid waste (secondarily treated, when the systems work and aren't overloaded) of the southern region of the County, would indeed become Rockland's dumping ground. The following rationale is advanced: Clevepak is in economic difficulties and desperately needs to

cut its fuel (28,000 gal/day) costs; Orangetown, faced with the prospect of quarter million dollar per annum fees for the use of the Clarkstown landfill, is actively seeking other options; "Federal Money" is available to construct such a plant. Additional credence seemed lent to these arguments recently when a Clevepak representative approached Rockland County's Environmental Management Council for their reaction to such a plan.

In order to investigate some of these concerns we talked with people from Clevepak and from a NYC engineering firm retained by Clevepak for a feasibility study on converting solid waste to fuel. Clevepak's position is that the company "does not anticipate any construction, per se," but

would be a "vitally interested prospective customer of the fuel" that would result from a solid waste conversion plant. The engineering study was done about three years ago, and the recommendations were positive, as well they should have been. After all, solid waste has a high energy content. Combusting a ton of refuse can produce enough heat to generate 6500 lb of steam - equivalent to 65 gal of fuel oil. It is also likely to be cheaper than oil, and less vulnerable to huge price increases or interruption of supplies as a result of actions undertaken by foreign cartels. Implementation of the recommendations apparently foundered on several problems, however, one of which was the necessity of gaining 'control' of the solid waste. fhe county's "garbage" is handled at present by a number of private and numicipal carters, and few of these have shown much inclination to plan ocyond last week.

In addition to the usual citizen protests that can be anticipated in any attempt to disrupt the status quo, numerous other hurdles lie between the conception and completion of any solid vaste disposal facility. Perhaps the largest will be in locating one or more sources of multi-million dollar funding. Another will be convincing that agency or government that Rockland County's waste disposal problems are greater than those of, say, Westchester, New York City, or numerous other localities competing for available funds. Still another will be the very difficult decision as to what type of facility should be built. There are now only a handful in operation in the country, although many nore are on the drawing boards or under construction. Most are prototypes in one way or another. The type recommended to Clevepak produce gas, and are economically feasible only when located near the point of consumption. Others produce a highly corrosive liquid fuel, or a solid fuel, both of which can be transported. Some require shredding of the waste and/or its combustion along with coal, which might better be suited to an Orange and Rockland operation. Many plants in Europe apparently burn raw, un-

shredded solid waste, and it was argued that should any such operation eventually land in Piermont, about 600 tons/day (about 3/4 of the county total) would suffice to cover Clevepak's needs. The only way this would be brought in would be after compaction into 20-ton trucks, which adds to 30 deliveries/day. If no sorting and resource recovery (metal, glass) occurred at the transfer/packing stations, about 1/4 of the incoming waste would go out again as incinerator residue. Overlying all other difficulties would be a plethora of permits related to construction (on an area adjacent to a tidal wetland??), siting, operation, air quality, etc.

At present the obstacles to be overcome seem very great, but let's not underestimate the power of positive thinking. And finding viable uses for our solid wastes is indeed positive thinking. Using taxpayers' money to buy land on which to dump resourceladen "waste" and again to buy "dirt" to cover that "waste" can make sense only to squirrels. The landfills will soon be full and adequate new locations are scarce. The towns and county may not yet see the economic potential of alternate methods of waste disposal, but the company that does and can get its act together stands to profit.

Piermont may have a large stake in this issue. A cheaper source of fuel to one or more Piermont industries might well be beneficial; so might be the opportunity to charge the "tipping fees" now assessed by other localities for the use of their landfills. noisy, pollution ridden, traffic congesting, experimental resource recovery or incineration plant could be quite the opposite. Let's keep our eyes open and ears to the ground. in the meantime, remember that practically all your "garbage" can be recycled in one way or another. Close proximity of Piermont to Glen Shaw Glass (Route 303, Orangeburg) and Clevepak make glass and paper recycling convenient. For information on other types of recycling see the March issue of the NEWSLETTER.

1977 PCA DUES NOW BEING COLLECTED

RECOLLECTIONS OF A HUDSON RIVER

BOATMAN

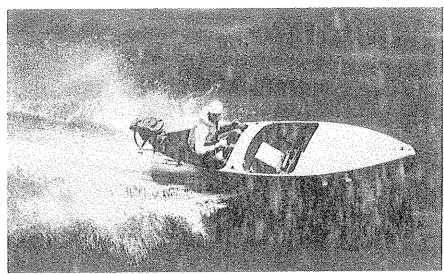
By W. Dorwin Teague

Dorwin Teague is an inventor, writer and sportsman, who has spent much time on the Hudson River. Living in Piermont for the past nine years; his writing has appeared in Yachting, New York Magazine and The Saturday Review.

My first recollection of the Hudson River was the trip up to Kingston on the old Day Line boats, which the family used to get to our Woodstock summer place. At the age of eight I was more fascinated by the huge polished steel crankshaft and connecting rods of the Robert Fulton than by the scenery.

In the Thirties and Forties my brother Lewis and I got into outboard racing and eventually became involved in the annual Hudson River Outboard Marathon. We used to do our practicing on the Tappan Zee. In 1948 Lewis won the class "C" trophy in the 142-mile Albany-New York Race, for which he received temporary custody of a large, rather ugly cup, on which he had to take out insurance until it was returned. I was more fortunate in winning class "A" (the smallest class) the following year as it now carried a \$500 cash prize which I elected to take in the form of a letter of credit to Sears Roebuck in order to maintain a semblance of an amateur standing. quantity of loot that one could get for \$500 at Sears in 1949 was quite amazing.

Both of us used to race aluminum boats contributed by the Feathercraft Company; my motors were made by the Champion Company, since deceased. In order to save weight in the tiny class "A" boats we used to refuel at Poughkeepsie and by the time we got down to the Tappan Zee the outfit was quite light. The pounding the boat took off Nyack and Piermont as a



Teague winning Albany to New York Race.

southerly wind made up against the outgoing current was spectacular. Mere survival for boat and crew was a key ingredient to success and my brother and I had a big advantage over the mid-Westerners as we could do our practicing on the river and find out what was going to fall off in advance.

About this time I got more interested in sailing and after a period of crewing

we bought a Thistle (the first one on the river) which we sailed out of the Nyack Boat Club. After a couple of years of racing and day sailing, we bought "Sea Frolic," a 34-foot cruising sloop which we sailed up and down the East Coast. We still flew the Nyack burgee and I remember the protests which arose at the Club when it was announced that the annual dues would have to be raised from seven dollars to eleven dollars to pay for work on the dock.

"See Frolic" was severely damaged in hurricane Carol so we sold her and spent a period "on the beach" except for one of the original rubber boats that we used mainly for duck shooting in the Piermont marshes and the old Standard Oil pier by Sneden's Landing. These pioneer rubber boats had an annoying habit of exploding on one side or the other if they were not inflated just right, so we occasionally used to borrow a row boat from Joe Nero at Sneden's. This had an added advantage in that it was the same boat that the Park Department people used

(continued on page 16)



AT THE PIERMONT LIBRARY... A CENTER FOR LOCAL HISTORY

The October display in the Hall Gallery of the Piermont Library celebrated the 125th anniversary year of Engine Company #1, the Village's volunteer fire company. Arranged by Bill Goswick, the exhibit featured photographs of the fire company over the years, trophies Engine Company #1 has won, and a mannequin wearing the wet-suit uniform of the most recent arm of the fire company, the Underwater Rescue Squad.

More than displays accent Piermont's past and present however. Librarian Grace Meyer says that an upsurge of interest in Piermont is resulting in increased use of the library's research facilities.

The local history section of the Piermont Library, although small, contains valuable and unusual resource material. The original edition (1884) of David Cole's History of Rockland County is here - as well as the facsimile edition put out several years ago by Xerox as a project of the Rockland County Librarians Association. Official reports from the Rockland County Planning Board and other agencies share shelf space with a collection of Charlotte Bordwell's New Magazine and, of course, a complete collection of back issues of the PIERMONT NEWSLETTER. Many books on the Hudson River are also available in this section.

The new book of most interest to Piermonters will undoubtedly be the History written by members of the

Bicentennial Commission under the direction of Ruth and Howard Brawner. It is now undergoing final editing by Portia Takakjian and will be ready for distribution after the first of the year. Several other writers are using information about Piermont in forthcoming books and articles - Carol Prueitt of Garrison, New York has been doing research here for a Hudson River Catalogue, students from the Rockland Research Institute interviewed Piermont residents for a summer school project, and writers from the National Geographic have interviewed Mayor Bryan for an article on the Hudson.

The July-September issue of South of the Mountain - the magazine of the Rockland County Historical Society - is devoted to a history of Piermont. The author, John Scott, will give a slide presentation and lecture on "The Slote, Piermont, and the Erie Railroad" at the library on Sunday, November 14 at 3 p.m. Mr. Scott will have reprints of his article available, or you can get the complete magazine by joining the Historical Society. The program is sponsored jointly by the Historical Society, the Piermont Exchange (where you can get information on joining) and the library.

Photographs of historic houses in Piermont, Grandview and Nyack by Valerie Meyer of Nyack are on display in the Hall Gallery during the month of November. The collection was shown recently as part of the Architectural Landmarks show at the Rockland Center for the Arts and is basis of a forthcoming book.

In December the gallery exhibit will feature illustrations by Portia Takakjian of Clement Moore's classic story, The Night Before Christmas and Charles Dickens'

A Christmas Carol. The annual children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 18 at 3 p.m. - the guests will make decorations for the library's Christmas tree.

Regular programs continue as

usual at the library - films on Tuesday afternoons at 3:45 for elementary school children and Story Hour at 10:30 Tuesday mornings for pre-school children. Complete schedules are posted at the library and on the bulletin

board at the Post Office. The library has a new collection of large format art, nature, crafts and photography books available now on loan, and the movie projector is still available on loan for those who have ordered films for home use.



— PCA MEETING DECEMBER 9 8:15 PIERMONT LIBRARY COME!



———— Notes Around the Village ——

VILLAGE PLANS ECONOMIC ADVISORY BOARD

Faced with a growing budget and the ever-increasing complexities of the money market, plans are in the offing to establish an Economic Advisory Board. Mayor Bryan hopes to tap Piermonters with economic and banking experience for council on investment and other budgetary matters.

SAD TO SEE THEM GO...

The staff of the NEWSLETTER wants to convey their thanks and wishes for happiness to fellow-staffers Lyn and Tony Amos who are moving to Texas. was for many years our tireless typist and "final editor." Tony will be remembered for his articles about birds. (Is there really a Long-billed Dowitcher, Tony?)

CORNER WIDENED - FOR FISH?

The corner of Valentine and Piermont Avenue should be easier for motorists to negotiate now thanks to a unique arrangement between the Village and Sid Adams, owner of the K & A Auto Body Property located at the corner. Mr. Adams deeded over the necessary 30' crescent of land to Piermont, enabling the Highway Department to pull back the curb creating a wider roadway. As "payment" for the land, Adams asked that the Village stock the Sparkill pond with trout next Spring. When our local Lion's Club heard about this plan they agreed to take up the

challenge and help fund the restocking of the pond. They also hope to offer fly casting instructions for Piermont children there.

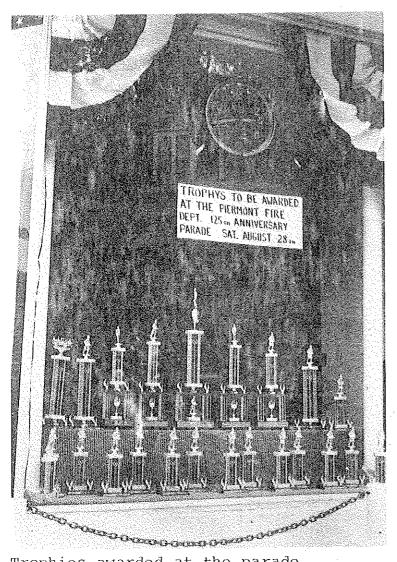
TEEN MOVIES

Saturday afternoons beginning late November, the Village Hall will become the local movie house. Full length feature films, to be selected by Piermonter Frank McKevitt will be shown to teen audiences. The series of about five films is not fully arranged as we go to press so we can't give you dates or titles but the information should now be available at the Village Hall.

WINTERIZING THE VILLAGE

With the coming of winter the Vi lage Road Dept. reminds you that they do their best to plow snow and keep of roads open. You can make their job is possible if you leave your car in the street and thus block the plow. (You can also get a summons. If you find you are completely stuck, call the po lice to notify them where your car is Po not rely on a note on your windshield.)

Please also remember when shovel ing your sidewalks not to throw snow in large piles in the middle of the street. When such piles harden, as they inevitably do overnight, they be come driving hazards. Sidewalks should be cleared within 24 hours of the end of the snowfall.



Trophies awarded at the parade.

PIERMONT CELEBRATES

There has been a lot of activity in Piermont this fall. It began with the 125th Anniversary Parade of the Piermont Fire Department on August 28. Units from fire companies throughout New York and New Jersey participated to honor the men along with a grateful crowd of Piermonters who watched. the pagentry.

The PCA would also like to salute the men of the Empire Hose Co. No. 1 for their dedicated service to the Community over these 125 years. The men, all volunteers, respond to over 100 alarms a year. Today there are 110 active firemen in the Piermont company, and our thanks goes to every one of them.

On September 19, the PCA sponsored the Second Piermont Arts and Crafts The affair attracted over Festival. 1.000 visitors to Piermont to browse and buy the wares offered by over 30 dealers, local merchants and community groups.

Later on in September the Rotary hosted a festive picnic at the Community Center. Music, singing, good food and spirit made the picnic a memorable one.⊠



Ex-chief Philip (Fuzzy) di Lorenzo presides at the parade



Rotary picnic community sing attracted from left to right; Sal Climenti, Lena Climenti, Gertrude Guglielmello, Jo Codella, Elizabeth Alfiero, Joseph Hurban.



Sal and Anna Conigliaro tend shop at the Piermont Arts and Crafts Festival.

shop talk...

The holiday season is fast approaching and what better place to do your holiday shopping than right in Piermont. Parking isn't a problem, and it's fun to stroll leisurely along Main Street. The service is friendly and personal and most important the unique gifts you can purchase there will long be remembered and enjoyed.

In search of "perfect" gifts we decided to ask some shopkeepers this question--"What gift would you most like to receive from your own shop?"

*Ginny Johnston of the Clausland
Book Shop, lovingly picked up a new
book she'd recently received, entitled,
Photographing America. Edited by
George Hornby and the editors of Eastman Kodak, the book contains 600 photographs. Bright and vivid, the photos
alone would provide hours of entertainment. Tips are also given to the
amateur photographer. There are also
books to fit all ages and types, bestsellers, hobbie books, children's books,
and if Ginny doesn't have it she'll
order it for you.

*Jimmie Artrip of Jimmie's Deli had food on his mind for the holidays. Gifts to hostesses or those you entertain of smoked ham, aged cheddar cheese or fresh Italian sausage were recommended.

*At the other end of Piermont Mildred Bruck couldn't make up her mind. The Exchange has a new Antique Department, whose prize possession is an 87 piece set of English Mason ironstone, but then there also is a new collection of 1930's jewelry, glass bead necklaces and earrings of the Art Deco period, and moderately priced too. Of course The Exchange hasn't forgotten children, there is a handcrafted "tooth pillow" with a pocket for the newly lost tooth, dolls galore, wooden puzzles and warmly knitted hats and mittens.

*George Walters at the Piermont Liquor Store said, "What nicer gift than a selection of table wines."
French Burgundy and Bourdeaux are
George's favorites, but he carries
a full line of domestic and imported
wine to cater to any taste.

*At Tomdia's Garden, the shop is well-stocked with healthy green plants especially the hardy succulents that owner Diana Davis chose as her wished for gift. A collection of flowering succulents that bloom in red, purple, yellow or white is a good gift for a working person. The plant's don't require much care and they give so much visual pleasure.

*For admirers of American, turn-ofthe-century glass, John McGahan at Piermont Antiques has the perfect gift. A table lamp handpainted with vistas of mountains, lakes and trees that become jewel-like with the lighting of the lamp. Another of John's favorites are the original oil paintings done by Orangetown painter, James Francis Brown. Mostly figurative, the paintings date back to the early 1900's and John has eight canvases. (Don't forget that Rosella McGahan has a cosy beauty salon in the rear of the shop, call 359-1111 for an appointment, she's good!)

*Delicious! That's what you'll say when you see the gift that Mike
Votolo of the Community Market has in his mind for Christmas. Mike will fill an attractive wicker basket with a wide array of delicacies. Fresh fruit, nuts and gourmet delights, some lingonberry jam, perhaps, broiled octopus, snails or the most precious of all, fine cavier. Name your assortment and Mike will fill a basket to please the most demanding gourmet.

*At the Mardy Allen Shop, Mardy showed us a great watercolor, painted by an English artist in 1877, G. M. Clark. It depicts a scene of Hungarian gypsies and is fittingly entitled "Gypsy Camp near Shepards Bush." She has a marvelous selection of silkscreen prints and lithographs, as well as her stock of dried flowers and "stocking stuffers." (Although

Mardy's shop has often been closed lately due to her recent operation, she plans to be open regularly from now on--get well quick, Mardy!

*And to treat yourself for the holidays, stop in at the Turning Point

for a relaxing meal. Recommended by New York magazine for its fine cuisine, the restaurant also has entertainment nightly. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday the entertainment, folk singers, small jazz or baroque groups, begins at 9,10:30 on weekends.

ORGANIZATIONS

WHEA ELECTS OFFICERS CALLS NOISE LAW ALERT

The West Hudson Environmental Association held its annual meeting at the Piermont Village Hall on October 29.

New officers were elected. They are; Chairman Walter Butler, Associate Chairman Ed Zissman, Vice-Chairman Carole Novick, Corresponding Secretary Carol Hovanik, Recording Secretary Dossi Thayer, and Treasurer Bella Shore.

Long involved in the problems of 9W, WHEA wants to alert all those concerned about the excessive noise on 9W that a new law prohibiting excessive vehicle noise has been passed by the State Legislature. On December 1, a public hearing will be held on the law which the WHEA and the PCA strongly support. Only one site has been selected for the hearing--Albany. Unless there is public demand for local hearings none will be held in Rockland. We urge you to:

1. Write to -Dr. Fred Haag
Director of Bureau of Noise
Dept. of Environmental
Conservation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12233

requesting that a public hearing be held in Rockland County on the noise law which will become effective April 1, 1977.

2. Support this important law by writing to Dr. Haag and asking that your statement of support for the law be included in the record.

Or better -- should you wish to appear at the hearing, ask Dr. Haag that he forward you information so that you may testify locally.

Rockland must have an opportunity to be heard on this very important law. Your support is vitally needed! Write today!

LIONS ANNOUNCE PLANS

The Lions Club has a very ambitious schedule of projects in progress, plus several others still in the talking stage. Our successful participation in the Piermont Arts and Crafts Fair, sponsored by the PCA, was our initial fund raiser. We hope the response in the future is as enthusiastic, for it is only with the cooperation of the community that the Piermont Lions Club can hope to accomplish its goals.

If your travels about the Village take you to the Post Office or the bank you will see containers for used eyeglasses. Anyone having an old pair of glasses, for which they have no further use, may drop them off at one of these locations or turn them over to any one of our members. Some needy person will benefit from your contribution.

A commitment has been made to assist in the stocking of the Sparkill Creek starting next spring, including plans to bring back the program of instruction in fly casting for the enjoyment of children of all ages.

Negotiations are continuing with the Continental Can Company for the proposed Frank Parelli Memorial Park property on the Hudson River. It is hoped that the actual work on this project can be started early next spring. In the meantime a rendering of the park can be seen at the Village Hall.

The Ecological Perspective

PIERMONT'S TIDAL WETLANDS

A good percentage of the total acreage of Piermont is now effectively controlled by the State's new Tidal Wetlands Act. This includes the extensive littoral region that extends offshore to the channel, both north and south of the Pier. During the past summer individuals had an opportunity to comment on the extensive list of rules and regulations that will accompany the legislation. Members of Piermont's Conservation Advisory Commission (CAC) attended two hearings in Orangetown that were convened by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and sponsored a third meeting for interested and potentially impacted Piermont residents. The latter session, at the Village Hall on August 2 included a lively interchange of ideas between residents of widely varying persuasions. As a result of these meetings both the CAC and Village Board submitted statements to DEC supporting the basic intent of the law, but pointing out several beneficial changes that might be made to the land-use regulations. According to DEC officials final revisions will be made to the legislation within the next month.

The purpose of the Act is to protect and enhance the present and potential values of tidal wetlands. The regulations thus only allow uses of the wetlands and adjacent areas that are compatible with the preservation of those values, which include marine food production, wildlife habitat, flood and storm and hurricane control, recreation, cleansing ecosystems, sedimentation control, education and research, open space and aesthetic appreciation. Several types of wetlands are defined, including coastal fresh marsh, intertidal marsh,

coastal shoals, bars and flats, littoral zone, and high marsh or salt meadow. Most all are represented in or adjacent to Piermont and the restrictions differ for each category. Many activities that were in the past conducted without let or hindrance are now either completely prohibited or require permits from or notification of DEC. Almost every conceivable use is covered, including waste disposal, dredging, filling, commercial and industrial and residential construction, docks, moorings, shoreline stabilization, boating, harvesting, etc. Fines for carrying out prohibited activities are relatively low for the first offense, but the costs to violators of restoring land to its previous state are likely to prohibit extensive malfeasance. might even be a local test case or two, if some people persist in their stated intention to continue business as usual. The regulations are not subject to local control or interpretation, but for effective enforcement of the legislation DEC will need all the help it can get from individuals. For landowners or others who have questions as to whether a proposed or ongoing activity is appropriate, the best procedure is to call (914) 255-5453 and write Mr. George Danskin, Dept. of Environmental Conservation, 21 South Putt Corners Rd., New Paltz, N.Y. 12561. contact your Piermont CAC.

One interesting local sidelight on the Tidal Wetlands Act is, that Piermont's environmentalists found themselves somewhat divided over the question of dredging. While dredging has always been regarded as a nightmare in the environmental lexicon, some found sufficient reason to consider dredging beneficial in certain circumstances. Primarily, these involved situations, common in Piermont, where natural processes such as siltation have been greatly accelerated by man, resulting in the rapid conversion of a highly desirable multiple-use category of wetland (littoral zone) into a less desirable state (coastal flat) with relatively few uses.∎

USE GUIDELINES CHART

FM - Coastal Fresh Marsh

M - Intertidal Marsh

GC - Compatible Use

GC - Generally Compatible Use - Notification Letter Required

HM - High Marsh or Salt Marsh

GC - Generally Compatible Use - Permit Required

SM - Coastal Shoals, Bars and Flats

LZ - Littoral Zone

AA - Adjacent Area

FM IN INC. SM 12 AA

	- Adjacent Area NA - Not Applicable			
	TYPE OF USE	FM, IM, HM	SM,LZ	ΑΛ
1.	Continuance of the production of agricultural crops in areas utilized for such purpose	4.		
	on the effective date of these regulations.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	C
	Cultivating and harvesting naturally occurring agricultural and horticultural products.	С	c	C
.3.	Scenic, historic, wildlife and scientific preserves.	C	U	
	Ordinary or emergency minor maintenance and repair (not involving expansion or substantia restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation or modification) of existing structures or improved areas, including but not limited to bridges, roads, highways, railroad beds, but heads, docks, piers, wharves, pilings, dolphins, buildings and landscaped or paved areas, excluding dredging and modification of drainage ditches; including, for example, replacin broken boards in docks, repainting structures, redriving pilings, resurfacing paved areas	k- g	e	С
5.	Boating, hiking, swimming, camping, picnicking and other similar non-motorized forms of	С	С	c ·
6.	outdoor recreation. Depositing or removing the natural products of the tidal wetland (or adjacent area) in the process of recreational or commercial fishing, shellfishing, aquiculture, hunting or	6		
	trapping, including the erection and maintenance of temporary hides or blinds.	С	C	C
7.	Educational and research purposes.	С	СС	C
8,	Manual harvesting of salt hay,	<u>C</u>	NA	NA
	Walking trails.	С		с
10.	Operation of motor vehicles, including air boats and other all-terrain vehicles, for educational or scientific research purposes.	GC_{II}	GCn	C
11.	Establishing plantings.	GCn	GCn	С
-	Harvesting of salt hay by mechanical equipment.	GCn	NA	NA
	Open timber catwalks and docks less than four feet in width.	GCp≠	GC _P	ccn
14.	Substantial restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation or modification of existing structures of any kind.	$GC_{\mathbf{p}}$	GC _P	GC_{Π}
15	Construction, maintenance or modification of agricultural or mosquito control ditches.	GCp	$_{\mathrm{GC_p}}$	GC_{Ω}
	Motor beating.	ΡŢ	С	NA
	Operation of motor vehicles, including air boats and other all-terrain vehicles, for			
17.	other than educational or scientific research purposes.	PI	сс _р	С
18.	Expansion of existing facilities and structures.	PΙ	cc_{p}	_ GCn
	Maintenance dredging.	PΙ	$GC_{\mathbf{p}}$	$GC_{\mathbf{p}}$
	Open catwalks and docks four feet or more in width.	PI	GC^{b}	GC_{p}
	Discharge of effluent pursuant to a SPDES permit issued pursuant to the environmental	PI	$GC_{\mathcal{O}}$	GCD
	conservation law.	PI	GCp	
	Recreational moorings.	PI	GC _p	NΑ
	Croins.	PΙ	Pl	GCD
	Bulkheading.	PI	PI	GC _p
	Shoreline stabilization.	PI.	P1	GC _p
	Filling. Accessory structures or facilities to any compatible or generally compatible use, other than accessory structures or facilities specifically listed in this subdivision.	P1	PŢ	GC _P
28	Construction of new drainage ditches and dredging and modification of existing drainage			
20	ditches.	PI	PI	GC _P
				ССр
	Use of any pesticide or herbicide, by means other than spraying from airplanes.	PI	PI	
29.	Use of any pesticide or herbicide, by means other than spraying from airplanes. Solid fill docks.	PI	51	GCp
$\frac{29.}{30.}$	Solid fill docks. Installation of utilities.	PI PI	b1 51	GCp
$\frac{29.}{30.}$	Solid fill docks.	PI PI	61 51	GCp GCp
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Hudson River Boatman - cont'd

to check up on the situation in the marshes. There was some difference of opinion at the time as to whether duck shooting with decoys was legal below the high water mark or, for that matter, just where the high water mark was. But we knew that as long as we had the only available boat we were safe. Our duck shooting expeditions were also a trial to our mother who was practically a charter member of the Audubon Society and she was much relieved when my brother and I hung up our guns and became bird watchers rather than shooters.



Days bag after shooting on the pier

During this same period I was running the Research Engineering Department at Bendix in Teterboro, New Jersey. of my projects was a rather large Army contract involving the development of one of the first ground-to-air missiles. This was a small diameter, very high velocity unguided liquidfuel rocket which was fired in groups. After the very short burning period, the warhead and booster separated and the question arose as to how the detached booster would behave. The aerodynamicists disagreed; some said it would come down like an arrow at lethal speeds, others claimed it would tumble. It was quite important that this question should be settled. thought I knew how we could get the answer so I called the manager of the

Robert Gair Company who owned the Piermont pier at the time.

After a bit of flag-waving they agreed to let us use the pier; the test also involved getting permission from the Coast Guard and the Army Engineers as I remember. The great day came and while the company Beechcraft flew up and down the river at various altitudes throwing boosters out the open door my assistant and I circled around picking them out of the water in Joe Nero's trusty rowboat and outboard. As it turned out the boosters behaved better than anyone had dared to hope; they all fell sideways so slowly that it looked like it would be possible to catch them bare-handed.

In the late Fifties I took the famil on a European business trip and my 12 year old son and I were intrigued by the "pedalos" on Lake Geneva. These were small pontoon boats with a paddle wheel driven by foot pedals. We conceived the idea of a super, outboard powered pedalo which we proceeded to design and build on our return. as I know this was the first outboard powered pontoon boat on the Hudson. The basic flotation was a pair of surplus aluminium aircraft wing tanks connected by an aluminum frame and covered with an eight-by-sixteen foot plywood deck. The motor was mounted on a separate frame which could be adjusted for height and the only things on the varnished deck were a gas tank, a tool box and a helmsman's seat. built a special trailer with surplus aircraft tail wheels that fitted in between the pontoons and towed the whole rig behind the family VW. the wing tanks, the trailer wheels and even the varnish were purchased as a result of ads in the Sports Section of the Sunday New York Times we named the craft "Section 5."

She was launched at Cornetta's launching ramp on the River Road in Piermont.

We made many expeditions in Section 5 including a circumnavigation of Manhattan and trips up the river to Stony Point and beyond. She had one outstanding characteristic in that

she could go under almost any bridge that wasn't actually touching the water. On one trip we went under the railroad bridge at the Croton River to visit Van Cortlandt Manor and we actually had to take the cap off the gas tank to clear. The crew all lay flat on the deck, praying that no New York Central train would come along during the operation.

We got the urge to sail again and in the 1959 New York Boat Show we fell hopelessly in love with the prototype Triton, a 28-foot cruising boat and the first real production fiberglass sailboat of any size. At the time no Triton had yet been put into the water but we put down a deposit and after the usual delays and problems took delivery of "Olé," Triton number 8. In 1960 Olé was the only fiberglass cruising sailboat on the Hudson River and one of perhaps a half a dozen cruising sailboats of any type. This seems almost incredible today with large fleets of good sized sailing craft in every town on the river. With Olé we started our annual custom of cruising on the Hudson during the fall months when the leaves start turning and the river scenery is beautiful.

In 1960 I accidentally got hold of a copy of Mixter and learned celestial navigation. This was a mistake as there is only one way to test such knowledge so we started making elaborate preparations for a sea voyage in Olé. With wife Harriette, son Harry and an innocent but enthusiastic employee we departed for Bermuda in June, picking a time just before the start of the Bermuda Race in the hope that if we were dismastered or in serious trouble someone might be coming by in a few days.

Harriette and Harry took the boat from the Alpine basin with friends and neighbors alternately waving and weeping on the top of the Palisades. They brought Ole into the 79th Street boat basin where my crew member and I got on board directly from our Madison Avenue office in business suits and we took off. We got our share of storms and adventures during the seven days

it took us to get to Bermuda but eventually we found the island and were made welcome at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. After a pleasant stay in Bermuda, we shipped Olé back to New York on the foredeck of the Queen of Bermuda. They dropped her in the water at 46th Street with her mast on the deck and Harry brought her back to her home on the Tappan Zee.

In 1963 we bought our present boat Souffle. We have raced Souffle in a number of Bermuda, Halifax and Annapolis races and cruised the East Coast thoroughly but every fall we come back to the Tappan Zee for a month of sailing on the river. We visit the many historic places and enjoy stopping at the interesting little river towns all the way up to Albany. The Hudson is still as pleasant a place to cruise as anywhere in the world.



The "Hermit" who lived in the Sneden's marsh, circa 1948.
Does anyone know his name?

PCA MEETING DECEMBER 9 8:15 PIERMONT LIBRARY - COME!

POKIRY

THE BICENTENNIAL

The rum runner,
The debtor,
The outcast,
Mingling with the religious persecuted and freedom thinker.
Pushed field and forest and through mighty mountain
The Western Frontier,
Across vast plain
To mighty roar of ocean
And Freedom's Gate, long last.

EVENTIDE

As far as eye can see The horizon settles in its golden arch
Across the Hudson's silver ripple
Of a millenium of rainbow colors
And drinks the setting sun
To bid farewell to this day forever.

BIRTH OF NATION HOUSE

In dignity the stately mansion stands, Though tired of glories long past Yet leans to heaven
With stained, discoloured pillars,
That once saw Birth of Nation
Blazen on winding entrance path,
Respendent in history's trail
Now left to high beamed ceilings
Of forgotten, faceless past.

) () ()

Nyack resident, has a special affection for Piermont inspiring him to write these verses of poetry. Long involved in journalism with the Yonkers Herald Stateman and now The New York Times, Mr. Zedicoff is currently working on a book entitled Letters from Boys at War.

SPRCIAL

DID YOU EVER?

Wake up very early, look out over the Hudson and see the glowing pink sun rising?

Go up to the northeast corner of Tallman Park in the late afternoon as the sun was starting to go down west of the Palisades and see the marsh and pier turn a brilliant gold in the afterglow? The most beautiful time of the day in Piermont.

Walk, jog or bike down "The Erie Trail" (former Erie Railroad right-of-way) and not meet another soul, racing down this tunnel of green?

Sit on a slope of the Cowboy Field (field above the Erie Trail south of Ash St.) on a quiet afternoon to contemplate the clouds?

Take a rowboat or canoe into the marsh and quietly drift through, occasionally rousing a muskrat or nesting bird?

Walk out on the pier at night with the moon bright, to guide you, and become encircled by the river?

Thank you to Grace Meyer for sharing the things she finds special in Piermont. We'd like to know what you find special in Piermont. Send your observations to PCA Box 22, Piermont for consideration for publication.

important?

AIR GUN ACCIDENTS

There have been a number of incidents involving air guns or B-B guns recently in Piermont.

The law is very clear. Ordinance 5.6i states: "No person shall discharge firearms, air rifles, pellet guns, rockets, firecrackers, gunpowder or fireworks of any description...". Police Chief Timothy O'Shea points out that no one-adult or child-can legally fire a gun within the village, not on public nor private property.

Dr. Gordon Knight suggests additional reasons to avoid use of air guns--even outside the village. "The B-B is unreliable," he says, "they don't go where you aim them." Dr. Knight's experience has included both cases of damaged eyes and complete loss of sight. Dr. Knight adds, "A double danger occurs with the shooting at moving cars. Sure, most such accidents are mistakes, but they are ones that can easily be avoided."

THE PIERMONT NEWSLETTER is published three times a year by the Piermont Civic Association. This issue was compiled and written by Bob Bradbury, Gilbert Burck, Charles Berger, Mimi Bryan, Bob Cone, Rosemary Cone, Cynthia Crippen, Tom DeRaffle, Stan Jacobs, Lori Joseph, Carole Novick, Lisa Merrill, W. Dorwin Teague, and Lewis Zedicoff. Photographs by Sally Savage. Art Director Lori Joseph. Editor, Carole Novick. Typing by Liz Barnes. New contributions to the NEWSLETTER are welcome. Contact editor, Carole Novick or send your story to PCA, Box 22, Piermont, N.Y. 10968 for consideration.

A REMINDER...

ATTEND THE PIERMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BUSINESS MEETING. DECEMBER 9, 8:15 PIERMONT LIBRARY

AND DON'T FORGET 1977 PCA DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

Piermont Newsletter Piermont, New York 10968 U.S. Postage Paid Bulk Rate Permit No.3 Piermont.NY. 10968

OCCUPANT Piermont, New York 10968

NOTICE

THE NEWSLETTER--TO BE OR NOT TO BE--

We, the volunteers, who organize, compile, edit, type, illustrate and distribute the NEWSLETTER are faced with an ever decreasing amount of funds to get this paper to you. We believe the PIERMONT NEWSLETTER is worthy of the time and effort each person donates. This includes covering an event as a reporter or photographer; investigating a rumor; informing taxpayers on items of importance; soliciting articles of interest on people, history, and current events in Piermont; promoting shops, poets, cooks and neighbors.

The Piermont Civic Association is the financial backer of the NEWSLETTER. We send each household a copy of the NEWSLETTER three times a year. It amounts to just under 1,000 copies per issue. The printing and mailing costs are now, with inflation, up to \$450.00 per issue, that's a whopping \$1350 per year.

We think that many people in Piermont enjoy receiving the NEWSLETTER and would miss it if we were no longer able to publish it. Family membership in the PCA is \$5.00 per year. Last year we had less than 100 paid members. We hope that more of you Piermonters want to see us continue in 1977. We'd like to know your opinions. Take a moment, if you will, and fill out the form below.

Membership in the PCA is a voice in the community. Active members are always welcome but supportive members are just as important and are kept informed of all PCA activities. The PCA also initiates community projects done on behalf of the Village and its residents. Join the PCA, come to our meetings, meet your neighbors and voice your opinion. OUR NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 9, 8:15 AT THE PIERMONT LIBRARY.

At this time we would also like to introduce an "extra subscription" rate for the NEWSLETTER of \$2.00 per year. Any household may receive an additional copy or have a copy sent anywhere in the continental U.S.A. Just fill in the coupon below.

DUES AND DONATIONS ARE BEING COLLECTED NOW FOR 1977

I have enclosed \$5.0 Name	00 for 1977 PCA	dues.	\$	_additional	donation.
Address		-			
City	State Zip	· ·			
I have enclosed \$2.0 Send to: Name_	0 for a year's	"extra	subscript	tion" to the	NEWSLETTER.
Address					
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I like/dislike the N	EWSLETTER becau	ıse	адуулдан так жайда баштан катан как кажай кажай байлан жануулган кажай байлан жа		
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