

House of Yoder News (Sept 97)

You are Invited to the Annual Meeting!

The second annual meeting of the House of Yoder will be held at Penn Alps in Grantsville, Maryland on **Saturday, November 8, 1997** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Agenda items include: sharing a brunch at the Penn Alps Restaurant, a tour of the Yoder House, a short business meeting and input from our guest speaker, Jan Gleysteen. A noted historian and photographer, Gleysteen will show slides and speak to us about Yoder history in the European setting. Those who have heard Jan know of his vast knowledge and engaging, storytelling style. You won't want to miss his input! For those traveling from a distance, consider spending a night or two in the Grantsville area. Lodging options at Grantsville include two motels, an inn, and a bed and breakfast: Holiday Inn (301-895-5993), the Casselman Hotel (301-895-5055), the Elliott House Victorian Inn (800-272-4090), and the Walnut Ridge Bed and Breakfast (301-895-4248).

Good News on the Fund-Raising Front!

On the fund-raising front, there has been much good news since our last communication. First, House of Yoder, Inc. now has its own 501c3 non-profit status. This means that contributions will continue to be tax-deductible. Second, House of Yoder has received two substantial gifts to ensure the ongoing building progress and future operation of the Yoder House. The first gift, from an anonymous donor, is a **\$20,000 matching grant** towards the building of the Yoder House. From this date forward all contributions (including membership dues) will be matched dollar for dollar by this matching grant. Send your membership dues or contributions (payable to "The Yoder House Project") to Lonnie Yoder, Publicity/Membership Coordinator, Yoder House Project, 1066 Smith Avenue, Harrisonburg, VA 22802. Membership options are as follows: one year individual-\$25, one year couple-\$35, five year individual-\$100, five year couple-\$150, lifetime individual-\$1000, and lifetime couple-\$1500. The second gift from another anonymous donor is a **\$10,000 contribution** to establish a **House of Yoder Operating Endowment Fund**. The House of Yoder Executive Committee formalized this endowment fund at its last board meeting and contributions can be earmarked for this fund as well.

The Building is Coming Up Out of the Ground!

Since our last communication, the wells have gone in, footers have been poured, and some concrete block have been laid. Much of the construction material is on site and we anticipate much progress before our annual meeting on November 8. We are in need of **volunteer labor** at various stages of construction. If you have carpentry or masonry skills (or know of someone who does) and would be willing to donate some labor anytime this fall, please contact our Building Superintendent, Kenneth Yoder, at 301-895-5411.

An Invitation for Your Support!

Finally, let me say that **now is a crucial time** for all Yoder persons to come together to realize the dream of the Yoder House. Think about some way, large or small, that you can contribute. Becoming a member of House of Yoder, making a financial contribution, volunteering your labor, recruiting others to support this project are all concrete expressions of your commitment. If you have any questions about the annual meeting or anything else in this communication, please contact me (Lonnie Yoder) at 540-432-6467; e-mail: ltby@shentel.net; or 1066 Smith Avenue, Harrisonburg, VA 22802.