

CANAL TOWN, U.S.A.

CANASTOTA CANAL TOWN CORPORATION — 130 EAST CENTER STREET, CANASTOTA, N. Y. 13032

January 30, 1970

Dear Canal Town Booster:

The second year of existence of our Canal Town Corporation has been an active one, frustrating in a few matters, but encouraging in others. We have made progress toward our long-term goal, and in this letter we summarize the highlights.

1. During the past year we have acquired purchase options on the Dominick Albanese property on Canal Street for potential development as a Canal Museum, and on two adjacent land tracts for ultimate use as parking lots. Renovation and remodeling of the building is under way, although it has not proceeded as rapidly as we had wished, due to certain unexpected difficulties. We have an imposing accumulation of historic articles and documents given us for display and these are all insured and being stored temporarily at the Bigelow store premises. Additional gifts of this nature will be welcomed. Present plans call for definite opening of the Museum sometime in April 1970.

2. A Second Annual Flea Market was successfully held last July 12. Despite a rainy day we had nearly 30 exhibitors and realized more than \$500 in needed funds for our treasury. Once again that day the old Erie Canal "Towpath" and neighboring area was alive with colorful activity and indications of Canal Town progress. A third Flea Market is already set for July 11, 1970.

3. Seeking to advance Phase I of our Master Plan, your Directors have presented to the Canastota Village Board an implemented proposal for seeking state approval of a Municipal Canal Park along South Canal Street between Commerce and Main Streets. This is the core area of our whole Canal Town concept and image, and state aid of \$60,000 is sought for land acquisition of four parcels of property involved. If the state approves the project, the Village would eventually have to reimburse the state one quarter of the whole amount, or \$15,000 toward its cost. This program has received much favorable support locally, and since no immediate appropriation is involved, it is hoped that the Village will take early steps to start the ball in motion toward the final accomplishment of the project.

4. Our annual meeting in October resulted in the election of two new Directors, namely former Mayor Wallace W. Sharpe and David F. Grossman, both of whom contributed active support to our Canal Town project since their election. Re-elected and hold-over Directors are Wheeler Milmo, Mrs. Jane Fudesco, Farrell Miller, John Patane, Mrs. Rose Farfaglia, Carlton Bigelow, Mrs. Allee Wood, Eugene Pavone, Robert Hall and Thomas Anderson. Officers were all reelected, including President Milmo, VicePresident Bigelow, Secretary Patane and Treasurer Farfaglia.

5. Steps have been taken to have our Canal Town Corporation declared a tax-exempt organization, so that persons or groups desiring to make cash contributions or other gifts to us, may receive proper credit on their income taxes. Our loyal member Atty. Ralph Balducci is taking care of this matter, and there is a

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possibility that an amendment will be required in our original certificate of incorporation.

6. Robert Hall is heading up a special Finance Committee, which is exploring ways and means of strengthening our treasury, including possible presentation of suitable petitions to various large foundations. It is earnestly hoped that 1970 may be the year when our efforts in this direction may prove fruitful.

7. One of the main achievements of 1969 was the publication of a most unique and interesting book on "Canal Town Cookery", sponsored by our Corporation and promoted by a loyal and hard-working group of women under the co-chairmanship of Mrs. Marge Chamberlain and Mrs. Allee Wood. This book issued just before Christmas, has had a sensationally favorable response from the public. It appears headed for outstanding success, and its profits should provide substantial addition to our funds in the months ahead. The Cook Book sells for \$3.50 and more than 400 copies of the initial print order of 1,000 have already been sold.

These then are the highlights of the past year. However, we must now look ahead, because there is so much yet to be done. The Erie Canal State Park is gradually working its way toward reality, and our Canal Town, U.S.A. must be ready to come into existence along with it. There is plenty of need for all the support we can get, and your help is urgently solicited. Just Phone 697-9010 if you wish to volunteer any aid.

Enclosed with this letter is a statement of your dues for 1970, to which your early response will be very much appreciated.

Won't you please continue to be one of our loyal Canal Town boosters?

Sincerely yours,



Wheeler Milmoe, President
CANASTOTA CANAL TOWN CORPORATION

Enclosure

CANASTOTA CANAL TOWN CORPORATION
 TREASURER'S REPORT
 Oct. 1, 1970

RECEIPTS:

Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1969	\$1,485.27
Dues & Memberships	965.00
Flea Market	1,271.96
Rotary Club	400.00
Sale of Cook Books & Cards	<u>1,596.00</u>
Total Receipts	<u>5,718.23</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Taxes	153.00
Insurance	66.00
Walter Hynard, Contractor	2,793.24
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation	16.05
Scraping, Painting Museum -1969	182.60
Paint, Brushes & Supplies	107.84
Cement	36.32
Glass	43.20
Tearing out Plaster	82.00
Washing & Painting Walls	196.18
Paint, Supplies, Curtains	204.18
Electrical Wiring, Fixtures, Plugs	118.84
Museum Sign	35.00
Donation to Firemen's Council	50.00
New York State Canal Society	30.00
Jane Fudesco- Antiques	50.00
Postmaster	16.00
Printing, Paper Supplies	51.50
Flea Market Expenses	313.35
Henderson's	15.44
Renaud-Ruby (Photos)	21.50
Marcellus Lumber Company	36.75
Museum Mortgage	<u>150.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>4,768.99</u>
Balance on Hand October 1, 1970	\$ 949.24