

December 18, 1989

Dear :

No, I have not, despite developing suspicion, departed for the big historic preservation project in the sky! Nor have the College's plans to rehabilitate Hobart Manor been dormant--just stalled by a series of setbacks designed, I am sure, to teach me the virtue of patience. Forgive the long communication hiatus; I think the project is finally back on track.

As implementation of the Phase I furnishing plans began, some structural and electrical problems were uncovered which required studies. The College contracted with The RBA Group, Engineers, Architects and Planners to prepare plans and specifications for the entire second floor. These documents are now awaiting final approval from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. With a bit of luck, and a lot of pleading, we hope to have all permits by January 2. The new date for completion of the Dining Room and Billiards Room is mid-April.

Meanwhile, we investigated several major fund raising ideas which had been suggested by the Fund Raising Committee for Phase II of the Project which includes the Drawing Room and Center Hall.

1. The Big Apple Circus--it is a wonderful show, but a very risky fund raising venture. They want a guarantee of \$180,000 for eleven performances. Using their formula for pricing tickets--our share of the profits would be approximately \$20,000.
2. Golf Tournament--we surveyed several organizations who sponsor annual outings, based on prices at High Mountain Golf Club, our net profit could be between \$20,000 and \$25,000.
3. Mark Russell Return Engagement--by far the most potentially lucrative event. Using the Distinguished Lecturer Series format and the resources of both the Alumni Association and the Hobart Manor Public Committee, we could realize as much as \$65,000 for the Manor. Mark Russell was our most popular speaker in the history of the Lecture Series; his performance attracted the

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largest number of business and corporate attendees. We have spoken to Mr. Russell about coming back to William Paterson College. He is available for a return date on June 16, 1990.

As the holidays approach, I know the last thing on your mind is organizing a fund-raising event. However, after the first of the year, I would like to reconvene the committee to develop a strategy for selling-out Shea Center for a Mark Russell appearance.

Have a joyous holiday season, and please plan to attend the meeting at **Hobart Manor on January 29th at 8:30 a.m.** to plan the Mark Russell event.

Thanks for your patience. Please call me at 595-2332 before January 29th to let us know if you will be attending the meeting.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Kramer
Director of Community Affairs

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