

8 April 1988

Mrs. Velma Bigelow, Secretary
The Kaleva Historical Society, Inc.
14551 Wuoksi Avenue
Kaleva, MI 49645

Dear Mrs. Bigelow:

We hope our last letter (December 1987) to you wasn't lost in the mail. We would really like to know how the Society and the Museum are progressing since we last received word from you. We would greatly appreciate any help you can give us.

Our next newsletter will spotlight large-scale folk art environments in Michigan, and we will write a short piece on the Bottle House. We intend to publish this newsletter in the early summer, so our need for current information is particularly urgent. For this article we would like to have a good recent photo of the Bottle House as well as the new addition. Of course we will credit the Historical Society, and photographer if you wish. We will also send you a copy of the newsletter once it is published.

We would also appreciate any additional, recent printed material such as newspaper articles (xerox would be fine) that you think would help us. Currently in our files we have letters and pamphlets you kindly sent us the last time you wrote us: including letters to donors, a reprint of the Rainbows in the Sky extract, a guide to the museum, a brochure on the State Historical Register dedication, a restoration progress report (dated 1981), and a black and white postcard.

So we can better inform our members about the Historical Society and the Bottle House, we would appreciate knowing the hours when the museum is open, as well as if any entry fee is required.

According to the National Register Nomination form, Mr. Mäkinen built a bottle clad ice house on his farm near Kaleva in Manistee County. Does your Historical Society supervise this structure as well as the Bottle House? Do you know if this ice house still in existence?

Enclosed please find a copy of our last newsletter which I don't believe we ever sent you. We hope you enjoy it, and find it informative. In the near future we would like to send you a copy of our survey form to get your comments.

We were very happy to hear of the National Register listing of the Bottle House. This must have been a thrilling reward for your hard efforts.

We sincerely hope these requests are not overwhelming for you. Your efforts are invaluable to us. Thank you again for any assistance you can provide. If we can be of help to you in any way, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Pansing
Assistant Director