

Anderson Falls Heritage Society presents:

# KESSEL PARK INN, HOME OF MOVIE PIONEER & KEYSTONE COMEDIES FOUNDER, ADAM KESSEL

Port Douglas, NY

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

7:00 PM

Keeseville Fire Department  
8 Pleasant Street, Keeseville, NY



### Program Summary:

Motion picture visionary, Adam Kessel, played a major role in the early development of the U.S. film industry. A longtime Keeseville resident, Kessel founded several film companies including the New York Motion Picture Corporation (NYMPC: 1909), Keystone Studios, Bison Films, Reliance, Broncho, Kay-Bee and Domino Pictures. He was significantly responsible for the establishment of Hollywood. In 1912 Kessel sent his film director, Mack Sennett, to Southern California to make a series of silent films including Keystone Comedies and several Westerns. In 1913, Adam Kessel recruited and signed a contract with Charlie Chaplin, who at the time was on tour in the U.S. While working for Kessel, Sennett made 36 Keystone Comedy films starring Charlie Chaplin.

### Guest Speakers: Zoanne and Rich Schnell

Rich and Zo have lived in Kessel Park almost 50 years (1973). In 1978 they acquired the Kessel Park Inn, Adam Kessel's former residence in Port Douglas, NY. During this time, Nurse Educator and author, Zoanne Schnell, chaired and taught in SUNY Plattsburgh's Nursing Department. In 1970, Rich founded the Plattsburgh Crisis Center, and in 1982, the Champlain Valley Family Center. Rich chaired and taught in SUNY Plattsburgh's Counselor Education Department, and served as Chair, New York State Licensing Board for Mental Health Practitioners. Their three sons attended AuSable Valley Central and participated in track & field.

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