

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

Vol. IV - No. 7

J U L Y 1 9 7 5

HAGUE, N.Y.

THIRD ANNUAL HAGUE ARTS FAIR

The Hague Chamber of Commerce has agreed to sponsor the Third Annual Hague Arts Fair to be held at the town park on Saturday, August 2 from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. Mrs. Adra Seerup has agreed to serve again as chairman.

Local artists, craftsmen and hobbyists are invited to exhibit their wares. There will be no admission charges nor will exhibitors be required to pay a fee to participate. While individuals and organizations will be given adequate space, tables or booths will have to be furnished by them. Advance registration is required. This can be done simply by telephoning Mrs. Seerup at 543-6052 or by registering at the Chamber of Commerce booth at the park.

Articles which are displayed may be offered for sale. Cold drinks, bakery goods, etc. will be sold by various organizations. The Fire Department hopes to be able to offer American and bi-centennial flags at reasonable prices. An added attraction this year will be music and a number of exhibitors will dress in costumes to dramatize the bi-centennial.

Parking space has been extended by thirty feet and the area will be black-topped.

Remember the date - August 2. In case of rain, the fair will be held the following day.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

On June 3 approximately 30 persons were present for a public hearing on

the proposal to build a library. The report of the library committee was read and questions pertaining to the report were answered by members of the committee. A substantial majority of those present appeared to be in favor of building the library/museum along the lines suggested by the committee.

Some of those present felt that costs would far exceed the estimates supplied by the committee and the problem of building a bridge over the brook was, in the opinion of others, not adequately covered. Some felt that a referendum should be held in order to get a true picture of whether a majority of the townspeople favored the proposal. The Town Board indicated that it would give the matter further study.

On June 10 at 7:30 P.M. a public hearing was held to consider the adoption of an "open container" ordinance. About fifteen persons were present.

The proposed ordinance as read by the supervisor, would prohibit any person from having in his possession any open bottle or container containing liquor, beer, wine or other alcoholic beverage while on any public highway, public street, public sidewalk, public parking area or in any vehicle or public place except those premises duly licensed for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverage on the premises. Penalty for a first offense would be a fine of \$25. or 10 days imprisonment, or both; a second or subsequent offense would draw a fine of \$50. or 30 days imprisonment or both.

Both proponents and opponents of

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the proposed ordinance were heard at great length. During the hearing questions were raised as to the application of the ordinance to public camp grounds, parks, roadside rest areas, etc. The supervisor indicated that he would submit the questions to town counsel and the ordinance would be studied further.

At 8 P.M. on the same day, a public hearing was held to consider the adoption of an unnecessary noise ordinance.

The proposed ordinance would prohibit the creation of any unreasonably loud, disturbing and unnecessary noise which is defined as being detrimental to the life or health of any individual. Particular noises deemed to be unnecessary were described as the sounding of a horn or signal device on an automobile or motorcycle which creates unreasonably loud or harsh sounds for an unreasonable period of time; the operation of any radio or use of any musical instrument particularly between 11 P.M. and 7 A.M. which would annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel, etc.; the unreasonable and unnecessary shouting of any person which disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.

During the discussion which followed, problems with respect to the enforcement of the proposed ordinance were raised and it was deemed advisable to refer the proposed ordinance back to counsel for clarification.

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TOWN BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Town

Board was held on June 10 with all members present.

It was reported that a special meeting of the Board was held on May 22 at which the "open container" and unnecessary noise ordinances were considered. Additionally, the resignation of Joseph Streeter as town councilman was read and accepted. Thereafter, Mr. Streeter was named summer policeman for the town with James Morehouse of North Creek serving as relief. Police service was scheduled to begin on June 15.

Mr. Aaron Middleton was appointed councilman effective June 15 to serve out the remainder of Mr. Streeter's term.

The proposal to construct a library and historical museum was discussed at considerable length. Some of the Board members felt that this might not be an appropriate time to undertake a project of this magnitude and others felt that although the great majority of the people who attended the public hearing seemed to favor the proposal, there was still no satisfactory indication that a majority of the electorate would approve. The question of a referendum was discussed and it was concluded that the supervisor should look into the question and if it is lawful, a referendum could probably be held on Election Day, November 4. There the matter was left.

Consideration of the two ordinances which were the subject of a public hearing earlier in the evening was postponed pending the development of additional information.

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GRADUATION AT HAGUE

Graduation exercises for this year's graduating class were held on June 19 for eighth graders and on the twentieth for highschool graduates.

The eighth graders who graduated are: Paul Belden, Michael DeLarm, Alvin Frasier, Randy Frasier, Michael Fish, Phillip Goetsch, Daniel Olcott, Randy Perkins, Barry Sharpe, Mary Ann

Denno, Tammy Palmer, Mary Lou Jordon, Cherie Ross, Kathy Smith and Bonnie Thibeault.

Bonnie Thibeault was named valedictorian and Michael DeLarm was named salutatorian. Both delivered addresses at the graduation exercises. The class will was presented by Cherie Ross and Randy Perkins; Bonnie Thibeault presented the Key which was accepted by Christopher Streeter; awards and diplomas were presented by Mr. Meola; and the invocation and benediction were given by Rev. Elliott. The eighth grade chorus rendered a musical selection.

There were ten seniors in the highschool graduating class; Mary Braisted, Diane Frasier, Jane Frasier, Jerry Frasier, Lynn Frasier, Perry Girard, Lawrence Jordon, Brian Porter, Kyle Porter, and Bernard Smith.

At the commencement exercises, the valedictory address was delivered by Mary Braisted and the salutatory address by Diane Frasier. Following the pledge to the flag led by Bernard Smith and the invocation by the Rev. Stephen O'Connor, there were several musical selections by the seniors and the honor chorus. The mantle oration was delivered by Jane Frasier and replied to by Robin Warren. Class gifts were presented by Perry Girard and Brian Porter. Awards were announced by Mr. Meola and Mr. Robert Denno, president of the Board of Education, presented the diplomas. Following a candlelight speech by Lynn Frasier, a candlelight song was sung by Lawrence Jordon.

The following awards were made: Thwing Award, student showing most improvement, \$5.00 - Bernard Smith; Morgan Chester Music Award, outstanding member of the band, \$5.00 - Beth Bolton; American Legion Citizenship Award, senior exhibiting citizenship, leadership, courage and scholarship qualities, \$5.00 - Mary Braisted; American Legion Sportsmanship Award, \$5.00 - Larry Jordon; Hague Faculty Association Award, citizenship and scholarship, \$5.00 - Diane Frasier; Tom and Charles Smith Memorial Youth Leadership Award, \$25.00 - Joane Fra-

sier; Bausch and Lomb Science Award, best achievement in science, Medal - Joanne Dunklee; Hague Central School Scholarship Award, \$1,000. - Mary Braisted; J.T. Potter Education Award \$3,000. - Jane Frasier.

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HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hague Historical Society held its last meeting of the season on June 18 with most members and many guests present.

Officers for the forthcoming year were elected, as follows: President, Clifton West; Vice President, Harry White Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Florence Fitzgerald. Dues were collected for the next year.

A film, Gunsmith of Williamsburg, was shown. It depicted the creation of a flintlock rifle from the raw metal and wood to the finished product. More than 300 manhours were used in its construction.

Delicious refreshments were provided and served by Mrs. Leila Holman and Mrs. Eleanor Aschenfelder.

The next meeting will be in September and will probably be a field trip. An announcement will be made later in the summer.

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The School Board met on June 9 with all members present.

It was reported that a special meeting of the Board was held on May 29 for the purpose of acting on bids received in conjunction with proposed sale of \$150,000. in school bonds. The bonds represent the remainder of the indebtedness incurred in 1971 when the addition to the school was built. The State Bank of Albany at Ticonderoga submitted a bid to purchase the bonds which would bear interest of 6.4%. Since this was the most favorable interest rate offered the bid was accepted. The bonds will

mature beginning on September 15, 1975; \$10,000 in 1975, 1976, and 1977 and \$15,000 in each of the years 1978 to 1985 inclusive.

Mrs. Florence Smith and Mrs. Alice Watts were appointed to the election registration board with Mrs. Lillian Sobul and Mrs. Betty Decker as alternates.

Mr. DeFranco was given permission to take the earth science and botany classes to Putnam Pond in Chilson on an overnight expedition.

Mr. Meola reported that Mrs. Ruth Barnett's name has been submitted to the State Education Department as Hague's nominee for the honor of being named New York State Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Barnett has been a teacher for thirty-nine years, about thirty-five in Hague. She teaches the fourth graders.

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CANDIDATES FOR LOCAL OFFICE SELECTED

Jack Carney called local Republicans to a meeting on June 5 to select candidates for local offices to be filled in the November election. A number of likely candidates were suggested and the meeting was postponed to June 12 to give them an opportunity to decide whether or not they would run.

On June 12 the following slate was adopted:

- Supervisor - Clinton Frasier
- Supt. of Highways - Dan Belden
- Clerk - Mary Alice Scripture
- Councilman - William Cobb
- Councilman - Aaron Middleton
- Town Justice - Emil Seerup
- Assessor - Harry Zhite
- Assessor - W. Beach Lambert

Mr. Belden was appointed committeeman to succeed the late Stanley Frasier. Mr. Carney's term runs out on Primary Day and when he advised the group that he did not wish to serve another term, Clifford Decker was named. Primary day is September 9th; Election Day will be November 4.

The Democrats will not name their slate until sometime after the Fourth of July.

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STANLEY CARL FRASIER

Stanley C. Frasier, a life-long resident of Hague, died suddenly on May 24. He was 34 years of age.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia; seven children, John, Eric, Tammy, Carl, Jan, Jody and Kenneth, three to ten years of age; his parents, Carl and Veril Frasier; two brothers, Clinton of Hague and Donald of Albany; and two sisters, Gloria Frasier and Patricia Forgette of Hague.

Funeral services were held on May 27 at the Wesleyan Church with the Rev. Elliott officiating. Burial took place in May's Cemetery.

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DEAN'S LIST

Cindy Bly who graduated from Hague Central School last year, has been named to the Dean's list at Oswego State College. Cindy is the daughter of Mrs. James Bly and the late James Bly.

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PROPERTY OWNERS TO MEET

The Property Owners of Silver Bay will hold a meeting on Saturday, July 12 at the meeting room of the Hague Fire Department at 10 A.M. Coffee and cake will be served starting at 9:45.

Gerry Boyd, president, is endeavoring to get a speaker from the Lake George Commission to discuss the take-over of Lake George by the Army Corps of Engineers.

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BIG FISH CAUGHT

Standing on the shore of Lake

George at the mouth of Hague Brook, Clifton West hauled in a 4-3/4 lb. salmon measuring about two feet in length. He was using a nightcrawler or bait. This was the biggest of the more than thirty fish Clifton has caught during the early part of June.

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NELSON WATERS RECALLS

The name Sabbath Day Point was used in Rogers' Journal, June 25, 1758, the season before General Amherst landed there. Therefore, says Nelson Waters, the origin of the name is still and has always been in doubt.

When the John Jay burned near Garfield's Bay, the six who jumped overboard drowned, the rest (number unknown) were rescued by boats from the shore.

The year the old town shed was built, a saw mill called an "up and down" mill was run by Nathan Yaw. Later he built a saw mill powered by water wheel which was underneath. Logs were reduced to lumber at ground level. Slabs and edgings were sold and dry lumber was planed into finished products upstairs.

I was in school, Mr. Waters continued, when we had the greatest downpour of short duration that I ever witnessed. The mill collapsed and some of the large timbers and parts of the mill went all the way down to the lake. The plane, a Champion, weighing approximately one to two tons, came to rest just below Stanley Frasier's house. Steel shafting was washed as far as the post office. The plane stopped at a point where there was once a bridge over the brook. The abutments for the bridge were washed away as well as two-thirds of the new state road which had just been built. Also washed away were two piers which had been on the state road side, a low wall, 16 to 20 feet long, and two large millstones, one of which can still be seen in the Brook.

After this loss, a new mill was built on the edge of the bank. The

steam engine, boiler, and saw mill were purchased from Zibert Eichen in Ticonderoga and drawn to the site with horses.

When Frank Crossman's house burned my father sold him and Fred Fish the grist mill and adjoining brush back buildings to tear down and build a new house for Frank. This is the house where Clifton Frasier now lives. The shafting and pulleys were sold to Nathan Yaw who built a new cider mill which was operated by water power into the 1920's. The mill was eventually moved to my property where it was operated with a gasoline engine from about 1931 to 1945. It could again be made operational in about thirty days.

According to the history of Warren County, the original name of Hague Brook was Quaker Brook. It flowed into Lake George at McDonald's Bay. Ed Davis and Henry Shattuck tell me they can remember when there was no road alongside this brook. In those days it was called Alder Brook by town residents. Others called it Mill Brook because of all the mills on its banks.

When the original road went over Battle Hill, up Split Rock Road and Toad Hollow Road, the first voting place was up there in a house later owned by my father. There was also a cider mill there. Cider Mill Hill received its name because of it.

Jabe's Pond was originally called 7th Pond which was near an abandoned iron mine which is on the south-southwest side of Spruce Mountain.

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THE BATTLE FOR LAKE GEORGE

In the beginning, Lake George and the lands surrounding it, was under the control of the Indians; specifically, the Iroquois. The Algonquins, led by the Frenchman, Samuel De Champlain, engaged the Iroquois, who were supported by the English, in battle after battle for control of the territory. Forts were built by the French at Ticonderoga and at other points to

the north; the English built Fort William Henry to the south. A form of intermittent warfare continued for the next 100 years as the battle for control raged.

Next came the uprising of the American colonies against English rule and after many skirmishes and battles both the French and the English were driven out. Lake George now belonged to the State of New York and it was to remain so for the next two hundred years.

Now, without the firing of a single shot, the Federal Government as represented by the Army Corps of Engineers has taken over the lake. The Army argues that the lake is a navigable waterway of the United States and therefore subject to its jurisdiction. The State of New York as represented by the Department of Environmental Conservation argues that New York has a comprehensive regulatory program on all its waters for dredging, filling, bulkheading, dock and pier construction and anything which the Army might do would merely be a duplication at a sizeable increase in cost to the taxpayer of what the State has already done and is now doing. Stated simply, the State says that for many years we have done a good job in keeping the lake water pure and clean and there is nothing the Army can do to improve it.

Thus, the battle has been joined

and the next stage will be fought on the floor of Congress. New York legislators have introduced in both houses, bills which would restore the authority over the lake to the State. This legislation is long overdue and it is hoped that action will be taken during the present session.

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FLAGS FOR SALE

The Fire Department is offering American Flags for sale at reasonable prices. The flags come in two sizes, 3' x 5' and 4' x 6'. The 3' x 5' sells for \$10.00; with metal pole, \$15.00. The 4' x 6' kits are \$16.00.

The Fire Department also has the Bennington Flag which sells for \$17.00 for the 3' x 5' size.

If you are interested, see either Ray Laundree or B.R. Clifton.

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GRIEVANCE DAY

Twenty-two complaints were heard by the Board of Assessment Review on June 19, Grievance Day.

Most complaints dealt with errors in lot sizes and other mechanical errors which could be adjusted without much difficulty. Complainants will be advised by letter of action taken with respect to their complaints.

Emil Seerup, Box 2504
Silver Bay, New York 12874
(address correction requested)

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