



VOLUME 29 No. 2

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

FEBRUARY 2000

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#### CORRECTIONS to the Jan. issue:

I really goofed on Mary Lou Doulin's kudos to the volunteers who carry Meals On Wheels to some of Hague's shut-ins. I failed to include Tom James and Mary Jo Keeler, both of whom deserve much credit for their devotion to this program. MaryAnn and Art Klein are also faithful volunteers in this program during their summer residency. Since the last issue Bruno Brauner has volunteered as a substitute for this program. I apologize for these omissions and want you to know how much you all are appreciated. . . . djh

**TYPOGRAPHICAL correction:** On page 1 under Partial Property Tax Exemptions, the Senior Citizens' exemption should read: over age 65 with household income less than \$17,725. This exemption must be renewed each year.

#### CONTROL INSECTS THE NATURAL WAY

You can control insects naturally by putting up nesting boxes for bluebirds or bat houses that provide an alternate roosting site for bats so they are not a nuisance near your home. The Warren County Soil and Conservation District will again be sponsoring a Bluebird Nesting Box Program this Spring.

Because of the bluebird's predators it is recommended that two nesting boxes be purchased together and placed about 100 yards apart. **The cost is \$8.00 per box and two boxes for \$15.00 including tax.** New this year, the District is offering a deluxe bluebird box design at \$15.00 each.

Bats are looked upon by humans as a nuisance. However, when you consider that a bat can eat the equivalent of its own body weight in insects in one night, one starts to look at them as something helpful. Put up a bat house away from your attic or other area where you don't want the bats; therefore, encouraging them to "hang out" in this area and eat more mosquitoes and other pesty insects that bother you in your yard during the spring and summer months. **Bat houses are**

#### **\$12.00 each including tax.**

Yet another way to help wildlife would be to purchase and put up one of the limited number of woodduck boxes available at \$20.00 each including tax. If you would like to purchase bluebird, bat, and/or wood duck boxes, please contact Warren Co. SWCD, 51 Elm St., Warrensburg, NY 12885. Phone: 518-623-3119. Please plan to pick up your boxes when you order them. Office is located behind the Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce on Main St. in Warrensburg.

More good news from SWCD: The deadline for ordering trees, shrubs, crown vetch sprigs is March 31, 2000. Tree transplants include Balsam Fir, Blue Spruce, Fraser Fir and white cedar. Seedlings include Black Locust, Canadian Hemlock, Chinese Chestnut, Norway Spruce, Scotch Pine, White Pine, White Spruce. Shrubs include Arrowwood Viburnum, Autumn Olive, Silky Dogwood. Crown Vetch Sprigs (perennial ground cover) are also available, as well as an assortment of seed mixes for wildlife habitat, fertilizer tablets, wildflower seed pack, tree shelters and tree mats. For further information to to receive a brochure, call 623-3119.

#### CENSUS JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Through the Glens Falls office, field workers will be hired beginning this month. The two field positions are: census takers at \$11.50 an hour and crew leaders at \$13.00 an hour. To inquire about these or other positions available please call 1-888-325-7733 or 518-745-0250.

When interested workers call the office, they will be given an appointment for testing at which time paperwork will be completed and a security check performed. These positions will be active from six weeks to six months depending on the type of job performed. **REGISTRATION FEE IS \$20.00. BRING DRIVER'S PERMIT WITH YOU. IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YOU MUST HAVE PARENTAL PERMISSION. CALL 585-4454 EXT. 23**

## KIWANIS CLUB

The following speakers are scheduled for the Kiwanis Club meetings during Feb. and March.

Feb. 24 - Scot Hearburg speaking on "Ronald McDonald House Charities".

March 2 - Business meeting

March 9 - Michael Mannix, Director of the United Way for three counties, including Essex County.

March 16 - William Plumb, Executive Director of North Country Home Services, Inc., "Home Care's Place in Long Term Care".

March 23 - Chris Fox, Curator of Collections at Fort Ticonderoga, speaking on "Preserving History".

March 30 - Pat Cornell will speak on the community band and instrumental music in the Ticonderoga schools. She hopes to bring with her a 14 piece jazz band from the Middle School.

## FORT TICONDEROGA WINTER PROGRAMS

On March 15 at 7PM Rich Strum, Director of Interpretation & Education, and author of Ticonderoga: Lake Champlain Steamboat will give a slide presentation on the history of steamboating on Lake Champlain, with an emphasis on the history of the last steamer to sail on the lake. Rich will autograph copies of his book following the discussion. Call 515-585-2821 to register.

*18th Century Embroidery Workshop.* Saturday, March 18, 1 - 4PM Ellyn Farrar, Curator of Landscape, will teach the basic stitches and techniques to create your very own embroidered "pocket." No well-dressed 18th century lady would want to miss this workshop! \$15 per person covers the cost of materials. Call 515-585-2821 to register.

## NEW POSTER PRESENTS VISION FOR TRAILS

A new four-color poster from N.Y. Parks and Conservation Assoc. (NYPCA), a statewide non-profit conservation organization, presents a vision for a network of greenways, rail-trails, canal trails, bikeways, riverwalks and other multi-use trails throughout N.Y. State. The 24"x 30" poster entitled *Building Community Trails Across New York*, features a map of existing and planned multi-use trails in N.Y., plus thousands of miles of abandoned rail corridor which present opportunities for additional trails.

One of the key purposes of the map is to build support of the vital and growing community trail movement in N.Y. NYPCA also hopes the poster will spur more communities to begin developing trails and encourage the protection and re-use of abandoned rail corridors.

The poster is available for \$5 (includes postage) from the NYPCA office at 29 Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207.

A graphic of the title area of the poster ("Building Community Trails Across New York") is available in two ways. A 300 dpi electronic image can be downloaded

from NYPCA's website at [www.nypca.org/ostergraph-ic.html](http://www.nypca.org/ostergraph-ic.html). A photograph of the title area is available by contacting NYPCA at 518/434-1583 or e-mailing [nypca@nypca.org](mailto:nypca@nypca.org).

## HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The HVFD responded to three fire calls in January. There were two training drills that required 52 hours. Three members have completed Level 1 Fire Fighters Course.

The HVFD thanks Estelle Anderson for her fun raising efforts on behalf of the new firehouse. Estelle has devoted many hours and much hard work to this fund raising. Thank you, Estelle.

Ambulance Captain Lu Megow reported that our ambulances made 10 runs in January, covered 472 miles and that 99 man hours were used.

We are happy to report that two new HVFD members have been accepted: Nelson Waters and Mike Camileo; we thank both these gentlemen.

A CPR course will be offered on Sat. Feb. 26 at 9AM. Please get in touch with Lu (543-6658) or Gerry (595-6780) to register for this training.

Our safety tip for the month: Our annual plea to be careful when venturing forth on the now frozen lake. Ice can be full of surprises, particularly if you are venturing anywhere within range of ice eaters and dock pumps which are used to protect docks from the ravages of the ice. These protective devices can affect the lake ice for many feet away from their obvious locale. Our Firemen are trained in ice rescue missions, but let us not make them put this training to use. . . ewa

We are curious - was the spirit of volunteerism greater in the late 1940s than it is as we approach the 21st century? When the Hague Volunteer Fire Department was formed in the late 1940s there was no lack of volunteers to follow the little red Jeep that was Hague's first fire truck. Now we are reduced to advertising for volunteers for both the Fire Company and the Ambulance Service. We really HATE to ask, but please aren't there any volunteers around town who can give time, effort, and hard work to the HVFD? . . . ewa

## HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Annual buffet will be held at 12N on Feb. 22. Please bring a dish to share, NO DESSERTS!. Register for this by phoning 543-6161 immediately. Mention what food item you will be contributing.

DUES ARE DUE. Please ante up \$5. before March 1. Checks should be made payable to The Hague Senior Citizens Club and given to Treasurer Kay Caldera.

TRANSFER STATION OPEN THROUGH MARCH 31  
THREE DAYS A WEEK FRI., SAT., SUN. FROM 12-5PM.

## ZONING BOARD

The Zoning Board did not convene during the month of January - there were no items for discussion . . .mjk

## PLANNING BOARD

February 3, 2000

The Planning Board met at 7PM. Due to the large number of people in attendance, the meeting was moved to the large meeting room. The order of business was to finalize revisions to the Zoning Ordinance concerning Tourist Accommodations. This revision affects 3 facilities: Silver Bay, the Hague Motel and Trout House Village. Chairman Swanson gave his comments on the tourist revision. Each member of the board also presented their feelings on the interpretation of the proposed revision. After many attempts at a motion that would satisfy the board members, Mrs. Harrigan proposed that the Planning Board recommend to the Town Board that they hold the section on Tourist Accommodations for adequate further study. There was no second to the motion. C. Fillare, board member, then made a motion to hold a workshop one week from this meeting date for all members of the Board to submit their ideas on this. This motion was unanimously approved.

## HAGUE TOWN BOARD - 2/8/00

The meeting was called to order at 6PM. A moment of silence was held for Anna Schiffer, Overbrook Rd. Ext.

Tom Jarrett of Jarrett-Martin, LLP, Professional Engineering, spoke on two of the Lake George watershed areas within the town of Hague: Jenkins Brook and South Brook. Jenkins Brook is in a 2000 acre watershed; South Brook (Sabbath Day Pt. area), within a 1500 acre watershed.

Mr. Jarrett described past and present activities that have likely had negative effects on the streams. Among them, he noted places where bank erosion and past deterioration of dams may have unleashed sediments that ended up in the delta. He said Rt. 9N is likely to be causing deposition of salt and sand in the waterways. He described six corrective actions that should be considered.

The review by Tom Jarrett may be seen in its entirety at the Town Hall. Corrective measures to be considered and pictures and maps are included in this review.

### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Tom James addressed the board re the Chamber of Commerce web site. There have been over 37,000 successful hits with 4,469 viewer sessions, averaging 1 min. 6 sec. each. In Jan. 99 the C.C. responded to 13 requests for directories. In Jan 2000 there were 54. The web site has been quite successful for the businesses in Hague.

Bob Patchett addressed the board regarding the Feb.

3 Planning Board meeting. He said they are planning to submit a detailed plan of what they perceive for future development in one of the three properties of the resort. He said the other two have been fully developed.

Nelson Waters addressed the board thanking them for having open meetings so people can express their opinions about matters concerning the town. He thanked the town crew for the wonderful job they do for keeping our roads clear. He sees the tourism issue as being very frustrating. He would like to see some changes made as far as planning is concerned. His concept of planning is to have a blue ribbon committee appointed to find out what the residents want. (Ed. note: A committee was appointed at the Jan. meeting to discuss and improve the Hague master plan.) He said greater clarity and simplicity should be on hand for those who need information on what they can and cannot do.

David Martucci addressed the board re. the zoning revision.

Bills were discussed and approved for payment and minutes of past meetings were approved.

## REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Assessor & Justice - (Councilman Steitz) Homes which have been under Article 7 review (regarding real estate taxes), were appraised last week. Final determination has not been made. The town clerk's records were in good shape. He will review the Justice's records when he receives them.

2. Buildings and Grounds (Community Center (Megow)) In Mr. Megow's absence, Councilman Hourigan reported a leakage problem at the Community Center. It was taken care of by shoveling the roof. He suggested that repairs would need to be made in the near future and we should start getting prices on a new roof.

3. Finance Nothing

4. Fire Department (Councilman Fitzgerald) The bid opening for the new fire house is on hold. Breakfasts are scheduled on Sat. & Sun. Feb. 19 and 20 from 7-11AM.

5. Highway (Fitzgerald) A report on what work needs to be done on the highway building is forthcoming. The consensus of opinion is that the town needs a new snowblower for sidewalks, ice rink, etc.

6. Insurance Nothing

7. Personnel (Hourigan) There is a vacancy at the Transfer Station. It is a part time job. Any interested persons should pick up an application blank at the town hall. Since the station is now open only three days a week, Lonnie Swinton can cover it. A workshop was held to propose changes to the employee manual. Another workshop will be held shortly.

(Cont. on page 4 - Town Board)

8. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater Management See Planning Board and Zoning Board reports.

(Cont. from p. 3 - Town Board)

8. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater Management See Planning and Zoning separate articles.

9. Recreation/Promotion (Fitzgerald) Sal Santaniello gave a report on activities for the Winter Weekend. Flyers were included with The Hague Chronicle last month.

10. Sewer District #1 (Belden) The Appellate Court won't make its decision until April.

11. Town Park & Beautification (Fitzgerald) Flowering plants have been ordered from Comstock Prison. (Spring is really coming!) The Sail Boarding group requested use of the park on June 24/25 and Sep. 16/17. Permission was granted. Fee will be \$150.00 per weekend. The BASS tournament will be held on June 17 and 18.

Mr. Fitzgerald will call a meeting of the Park Committee to update summer plans for the park.

12. Transfer/Recycling Station - (Belden for Megow) The Jan. revenues from the station were \$1,173.00. Report for the year sent to DEC totalled 909 tons, including everything.

13. Youth (Hourigan) He is setting up programs for the Wed. night "Music in the Park" series. This has been a successful program in the past several years. Marty and Carol Brown will conduct three 4-day classes for the Young Boaters Class this summer during the weeks of Apr. 17, July 4 and the first week in August. This year anyone aged 19 or younger driving a PWC or jet skis, must have completed and passed this course. (Cont. on page 4 Town Board)

The Fish and Game Club will host an Easter egg contest for the younger children

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supvr. Belden announced that the census will be taken in March, April and May. The school has been contacted for a list of Hague students attending. He requests each homemaker to fill in the form he will receive by mail. An accurate census can make a big difference in revenues Hague receives. (See separate article on job openings). If Hague is your legal address and you are not here, or fail to receive a form, contact the town hall.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. Letter from DOT regarding a request from residents from Lake Shore Terrace to put "no parking" signs on Route 9N. Request was denied.

2. Letter from Laura Meade requesting use of a room in the Community Center for a Boy Scout Troop, headed by Marty Meade to sleep overnight, Feb. 26 and 27. Request was denied.

3. Letter from NYS Dept of State regarding application for a grant under the Environmental Protection Fund. Application was successful. The town will

receive a grant of \$175,000 to undertake the water plan and improvement project for Lake George. This is a matching fund grant and money can only be spent on the Hague Brook.

- - - At this time Alice Patchett, from the audience, said she wanted to make comments. She disputed the information related in the Hague Chronicle about the tourist revision and said it had created "hysteria which is ridiculous."

4. Letter from Mitzi Fillare for the Chamber of Commerce, asking permission to use the community center for the Arts Fair on Aug. 5 and 6. Approved.

5. Letter from Hague Fish and Game Club announcing plans for a chicken barbecue on Aug. 5.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Bass Bay ordinance regarding watercraft speed Public Hearing will be held at 6PM on March 14.

2. Resolution for Snow and Ice removal and Sweeping. Hague entered an agreement with Warren County from Jan. 1, 2000 to Dec. 31, 2000.

The clerk read a letter from Alice Patchett criticizing the analysis of the proposed tourist accommodation ordinance presented at the Planning Board on Feb. 3.

#### PLANNING BOARD WORKSHOP - 2/10/2000

Although this was a workshop meeting for the Planning Board, many interested citizens attended. David Swanson, Chairman of the Planning Board read a statement to the board of his opinion re. the zoning revision concerning tourist accommodations. Since the regular Planning Board meeting he has talked with Silver Bay director Mark Johnson and referred to a letter from him which all board members have just received regarding the need to take a further look into this revision. Mr. Gladu asked if this was a pressing issue time wise and everyone agreed that it was not and should be considered more carefully. Mr. Gladu suggested that fact finding meetings could be scheduled with local people, business people and tourist related business people. It will take some time to sort out how Silver Bay Assoc.

fits into this revision and then public meetings could be scheduled. Board member Peter Foster thanked the many people who took time to write to the board of their concerns and those who came to the meeting. He feels since there is no restriction on time, these matters should be looked into carefully. He asked that residents tell the board their feelings.

After the board had discussed the various aspects of the revision, Mr. Swanson opened up the meeting to the public for their comments.

Michelle Gautreau spoke in opposition to the proposal until such time that it is refined and changes made available to the public for comment.

Lu Megow expressed his concern about the number of businesses which have closed in recent years.

(Cont. on page 5 - Planning Board Workshop) 2/2000

(Cont. from page 4 - Planning Board Workshop)

Nelson Waters suggested that we need to have some fact finding sessions and encourage people to come to meetings. We have obligations to the community. He feels the residents have a no-growth mentality. He expressed thanks to the board for opening the meeting to public comments.

Alice Patchett stated the need for flexibility in the town.

Bob Patchett stated that the rule we are dealing with now deals with the use of one acre in the town of Hague (known as a back lot with 95' of waterfront).

Mark Martucci read a statement stressing the need to compete with other areas regarding tourism units.

Mr. Swanson brought people up to date on how we got to where we are. Hague was the first town to adopt the APA planning back in 1979. If we had not adopted their plan, everyone would have to apply to the APA for any zoning. Now, as it stands, the Town uses its own zoning regulations and only goes to the APA for special projects.

Scott Patchett spoke on the 15% of lot coverage.

Planning Board member Chuck Fillare suggested to the Patchetts that they come up with a master plan that the board would review. He suggested that a letter be sent to all the residents in town to get their input of what they want for the town.

Supervisor Belden stated that he had gotten a call from Senator Stafford's office in regard to a grant - Adirondack Community Tourism Enhancement - for \$25,000. The town has received the deed for the parking lot next to the Wesleyan Church from the school. He hopes that this grant can be used to enhance that parking lot for the use of the town on 6 and 1/2 days a week. (It would not be used on Sunday mornings). The town is also looking into another spot for public parking, which should alleviate some of our parking problems.

#### NATURE NEWS by Laura Meade

When it is time to choose something for dinner do you search through the freezer or refrigerator hoping to find a meal that can be quickly prepared? Black-capped chickadees have no such problem (even in winter) because the birds grow a new brain every fall in order to remember exactly where their stash of insects and seeds are for the winter.

Scientists are discovering that these half-ounce bundles of energy have amazing arian brain power. It is documented that these tiny dynamos must replenish their food frequently. As our grandmothers did years ago, when they canned vegetables and put them in their pantries, so individual birds will stash food and remember where it is. They use a memory of positioning of the sun, and spatial relationship between particular trees to find clues as to where their "McDonalds" is.

Susan Smith, Mt. Holyoke professor, learned over

many years of research that chickadees don't have large fat reserves so they make their modest energy last overnight by lowering the body temperature from 108 degrees to about 86 degrees, in a controlled hypothermia state. This lowers their metabolism rate to about 25%. They know that they need nimble mobility in order to avoid predators, so they quickly get to their food supply to be "re-charged".

Social winter flocks of 6 to 12 chickadees stake out territories near a rich food source. Their cavity nests, which are in open areas, provide good protection from winter weather. Feeding is done in deeper woods. Often a pair will carve out a cavity by pecking at dead wood stumps, especially popples near roadsides. Nests can be found in unoccupied bluebird houses. Both sexes excavate but only the female lines the cup with plant fiber, hair, fur, moss or feathers.

In a 1988 publication, "The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State", researchers listed 3260 "confirmed breeding pairs" of black-capped chickadees. By using specific criteria volunteer birders assumed responsibility to closely observe one area (or more) of five kilometers, judging if a pair had chicks, or if there was a nest where possible breeding occurred, or if there was a probable breeding nest. A total of 5335 blocks were designated. Experts spent about five years on this huge task and considered all species known to be in the state. Black-capped chickadees were near the top of populations (using the three categories). In all, 5149 pairs of black-capped chickadees were observed making them the fourth highest on the list.

The American Robin, an abundant summer resident, is perhaps the most common with 4645 confirmed breeding sites recorded. However, the Song Sparrow was found in more Atlas blocks (54,195) than any other species, but with only 3619 confirmed breeding pairs.

P.S. There is a clever chickadee in Graphite who pecks on the window when the supply of food runs out. Now that's one way to assure survival!!

#### SNIPPETS from Clifton West, Hague Historian

The Bolton-Wardboro Road was a well traveled trail in early days. It connected the lower Lake George towns with Wardboro, Battle Hill section of Hague, Graphite and Horicon. Several families resided near the junction of these trails at the tops or so called Battle Hill. These included Yaws, Davises, Lanes, Bennetts, Sextons, Lagoys, Mattisons, and the Lewises. The term Battle Hill was only to define the section in which resided the Davis and Yaw families. They were always feuding. Peddlars came north and brought their wares in their backpacks. Women really looked forward to the arrival of those men. It so happened that some of them never arrived at Graphite. They were traced only to Battle Hill. What became of them was a mystery. One day while Mrs. Ed Pratt was out, Ed went upstairs and there he came on to some of those backpacks in the attic. He was so frightened at finding the answers to the questions of the missing peddlars that he ran all the way back to his former home, two miles away. There was never any effort made to investigate the matter.

**WANT TO GET RID OF THOSE JUNK CARS?** All car donations for Cars for Kids are IRS tax deductible. Free quick pick-up/tow. Proceeds Benefit Underprivileged Children. Outreach Center. For info. call 1-800-730-8777.

The Lake George Park Commission's Project Review Committee will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 29 at 10AM at the Holiday Inn, in Lake George, NY.

Commission's Law Enforcement Committee will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 29 at 9AM at the Holiday Inn. Some of the business of this meeting will be conducted in Executive Session. Public wishing to attend should contact the Commission office for an estimated schedule.

The Commission will conduct a regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 10AM at the Holiday Inn.

Interested parties are invited to attend.

### VOLUNTEER FINANCIAL COUNSELING

Now that the Y2K crisis has passed and the Christmas bills are in the mail, it's time to get serious about financial planning. You may have overextended this past month, preparing for possible problems because of the new millennium. Maybe you spent more at Christmas than you realized. You may owe a significant amount of money for credit cards and feel like you have nothing to show for it. The Volunteer Financial Counseling program at Cornell Cooperative Extension can help you get back on track. Questions concerning budgeting, savings, debt reduction, tracking expenses and setting savings goals are just a few of the skills you can learn to get control of your financial situation for the new year.

Call Cornell Cooperative Extension at 668-4881 or 623-3291 for more information. All services are free and open to the public.

### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Come join with God's people in over 170 countries for informed prayer and prayerful action on World Day of Prayer, Friday March 3 at the Church of the Cross, 311 Champlain Ave., Ticonderoga. This ecumenical service, written by Indonesian women on the theme "Talitha Kume: Young Woman, Stand Up!" is sponsored by Church Women United of the Greater Ticonderoga Area. Everyone is welcome.

Refreshments will be served at 10AM. At 10:30AM the prayer service will begin with Yoshiko Asami as our speaker and area women participating in the liturgy. Remember to bring your least coins for "The Fellowship of the Least Coin" and an item for the "Safe Houses." You may enter the church at the side door. Call 499-1238 for further details. . . Helenmarie Sunkenberg

### LARAC

The Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council Arts Initiative program is distributing over \$80,000 for arts and cultural programs in Warren and Washington Counties. The money includes \$79,500 from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Program and a \$4000 grant from Warren County. The town of Hague received \$450 to fund a summer concert series and art classes.

Applications for all funding programs for 2001 will be available in mid-summer. Individuals or organizations wanting information or to be added to the mailing list can contact the coordinator, Anne Smoczynski, at 798-1144, ext. 6, [lgrant@capital.net](mailto:lgrant@capital.net), or write to Arts Initiative, c/o LARAC, 7 Lapham Place, Glens Falls, NY 12801.

LARAC announces that the second annual LARAC Members' Arts and Crafts Exhibition, will be held at the Lapham Gallery March 13-31, 2000. All local artists are invited to submit two, 2-dimensional items or three, 3-dimensional items for inclusion in this non-juried exhibition. Membership in LARAC is required. Membership rates are \$10 for students and seniors, \$20 for individuals and \$25 for family membership. No additional entry fee. A reception will be held in connection with this exhibit sometime during March. Artwork may be for sale, LARAC accepts a 20% commission on sales. For more info. call 798-1144.

### HAGUE TOWN HISTORIAN'S REPORT

There were 183 visitors at the museum in 1999.

I attended all meetings of the Hague Historical Society.

I went to the Shelburne Museum.

Contents of both steel cabinets and the two drawer file cabinet need to be inventoried. This could be an afternoon job for one of the summer workers. The Historian will help with this.

We have a complex situation. Town Historians are not expected to be geneologists also. Our first Town Historian, Vila Fitzgerald, started with a few families. I kept it up and expanded the list to about a hundred families. Some of these go back several generations. Most of this material comes from people who have researched way back. I can give Pam Vogel, former County Historian, credit for helping expand this project. I have spent many hours researching Census books on Hague and Horicon in the Municipal Building. Many of Hague's families come from Horicon. The Town Historian of Chester and Horicon were pleased to get a copy of my article on what has become of those families who came "over the mountain" years ago. Many settled here to work in the Graphite industry.

(Cont. on page 7 - History)



**BORN:** A boy, William Miller, to Anne and David Bear, in Charlottesville, VA. Grandparents are Mary and Ed Crabbs, Fredericksburg, VA and great-grandmother is Mrs. E. H. Crabbs, Hague.

**DIED:** Edith Rust, 90, Westfield, NJ, on Jan. 6, 1999. She is survived by her son Bruce, Hague, a daughter Gail Wood, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Mrs. Rust first came to Lake George in 1927 and camped with her family for many summers on Temple Knoll Island.

**DIED:** Anna A. Schiffer, 96, Overbrook Road, Hague, on Jan. 23, 2000 at her residence. Mrs. Schiffer was born in Duesseldorf, Germany and immigrated to the U.S. in 1952. She lived for the past 15 years with her daughter Katie Koenig and her husband Frank. She is survived by three other daughters, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, a brother and two nieces. A memorial service will be held during the coming summer.

**DIED:** Henry Karmazin, Dodd Hill Road, in Florida. More details will be forthcoming in the March issue.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Ticonderoga High School Senior Eve Trombley, a resident of Hague, for receiving the honor of Student of the Month. Eve is in the top of her class academically and is a gifted and dedicated musician. She is the president of the Chorus, a member of the select women's ensemble - The Spirit of Sound, first alto saxophone player in the band and has gone to All-County Chorus since ninth grade and Area All-State Chorus since tenth grade. She has also been a class officer for four years, three years in National Honor Society, four years as a Natural Helper (Peer Counselor) and three years in soccer.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Hague athletes who competed in the Champlain Valley Athletic Conference indoor track and field meet on Feb. 5: Boys' 55 meter sprint, :07.6, Ted Santaniello; Girls 600 meter run, 1:59 Katie Rutkowski; Girls 3000 meter run, Katie Rutkowski, 12:36.7; Boys long jump, Ted Santaniello, 16-7. The Sentinels will take part in the state qualifying meet Feb. 19 at the SUNY-Plattsburgh fieldhouse.

#### WEATHER NOTES by Marylou Doulin

This year winter may have meandered on its way to Hague but since the middle of January there is no mistaking its presence. Here it is Feb. 15, one month into the wintry conditions and already it feels as though it has been too cold, too snowy, too ice for too long!

Jan. 17 the windchill was minus 40 degrees and most

nights of that week and the next bottomed out at well below zero. On Jan. 25th and 31st we were belted with two nor'easter storms which collectively brought 19" of snow.

The Hague Bay froze on Jan. 20 but there continued to be open spots in the water until the first week in Feb. Sun. night, Feb. 13 we got a third storm which consisted of heavy wet snow, sleet, freezing rain and lots of ice. Everywhere the trees looked like the frozen palace of the snow queen. Despite the brilliant sunshine, the ice remained on the trees giving us a dazzling spectacle all day long as the light changed.

#### HARMON GALLERY AT HANCOCK HOUSE

Beginning March 1 through April 29 Susan Morhouse will present "People the Earth" watercolors. A reception will be held at the gallery on March 3. from 6-8PM. All are welcome.

**THE NEXT PRELICENSING COURSE WILL BE HELD AT NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN TICONDEROGA ON MARCH 11, 2000. REGISTRATION FEE IS \$20.00. BRING DRIVER'S PERMIT WITH YOU. IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YOU MUST HAVE PARENTAL PERMISSION. CALL 585-4454 EXT. 23**

**HISTORY - (Cont. from page 6)**  
Added to the Museum in 1999:

1. Several small medicine bottles dug out of a dump from Julia Beaty
  2. A grain cradle bought from Art Steitz
  3. A sap bucket with cover bought from Art Steitz.
  4. A scrap book of recent events from Frances Jones
  5. A framed picture of Hague's first basketball team of 1932-22 from Steven Streeter.
- ... Clifton West, Hague Town Historian

#### ROTARY CLUB OF NORTHERN LAKE GEORGE

The speaker calendar includes Larry Fichler from the Darrin Fresh Water Institute speaking about their projects and holding a question and answer session on Feb. 22. Feb. 29 will be a Club Assembly. March begins with Ted Caldwell speaking on the 7th about Wolves. March 14th will see a program featuring Irish Humor and on March 21st local naturalist Laura Meade will present "Some Strange Curiosities of Hague Nature" - with audience participation.

The Rotary Club of Northern Lake George meets every Tuesday at 7:30AM in the Watson Arts Center on the Silvr Bay campus. Each meeting begins with a delicious breakfast. For more information call 543-8833.

*Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.*  
2/2000

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2000

### February

- 21 Presidents Day - Holiday
- 21 Chamber of Commerce meeting - 7:30PM
- 22 Senior Citizens Club - 12Noon - Covered Dish (p2)
- 24 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7PM

### March

- 1 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls - 8:30AM
- 2 Planning Board meeting - 7PM

### March (Cont.)

- 6 Fire Dept. meeting
- 7 Home Bureau - 10AM
- 7 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 15 Blood Pressure Clinic, 1-2PM - Comm. Ctr.
- 16 Carillon Garden Club - 11AM
- 16 Hague Historical Society - 7:30PM
- 20 Chamber of Commerce meeting - 7:30PM

### *LIFE BEGINS AT 80*

*by Frank Laubach*

*I have good news for you. The first 80 years are the hardest. The second 80 are a succession of birthday parties. Once you reach 80, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps. If you forget your name or anybody else's name, or an appointment, or your own telephone number, or promise to be three places at the same time, or can't remember how many grandchildren you have, you need only explain that you are 80.*

*Being 80 is a lot better than being 70. At 70, people are mad at you for everything. At 80, you have a perfect excuse, no matter what you do. If you act foolishly, it's your second childhood. Everybody is looking for symptoms of softening of the brain.*

*Being 70 is no fun at all. At that age, they expect you to retire to a house in Florida and complain about your arthritis, and you ask everybody to stop mumbling because you can't understand them. (Actually, your hearing is about 50 percent gone.)*

*If you survive until you are 80, everybody is surprised that you are still alive. They treat you with respect just for having lived so long. Actually, they seem surprised that you can walk and talk sensibly.*

*So please, folks, try to make it to 80. It's the best time of life. People forgive you for anything. If you ask me, life begins at 80.*

*Thanks to Mrs. George Cuchural Sr.*

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is published on or about the 20th of each month by volunteers and supported by contributions from its readers. Send news items to Publisher/Editor DOROTHY HENRY, 151 New Hague Road, Hague, NY 12836-2605 by the 15th of each month. Send tax deductible contributions to MITZI FIL-LARE, BOX 748 Hague, NY 12836-0748.

BULK RATE  
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PERMIT NO. 3  
HAGUE, NY 12836