



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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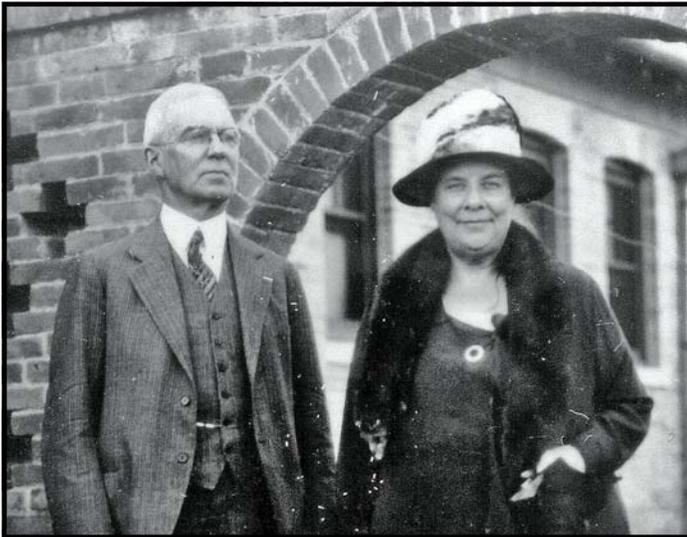
Hague, New York 12836
February 2017

BUILDING TO BE NAMED FOR WILLIAM BOYD

Silver Bay YMCA's historic inn will be getting a new addition beginning in September 2017.

According to Chief Executive Officer Steve Tamm, construction of the two-story, 42,000 sq. ft. building will be funded in part through a \$4 million gift from Virginia (Ginny Rowan) and Manning Smith, long-time supporters of Silver Bay YMCA.

The building is to be named in honor of Virginia Rowan Smith's great-grandfather, William Boyd, an early leader of Silver Bay and the YMCA. "William Boyd led from the front. He challenged his fellow trustees to be generous financially and to make hard decisions about the future course of Silver Bay," said Tamm.



William and Corabel Boyd

Boyd served on Silver Bay's Board of Trustees from 1917 through 1926, helping to steer the relatively new conference center through a difficult era. He was the first of five generations of his family to serve Silver Bay, a family that included his daughters, Margaret Rowan, Miriam Parlin and Isabel Proudfit, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren and his great-great-grandchildren.

Great-granddaughter, Virginia Rowan Smith stated, "Manning and I are pleased to be able to provide a lead gift for this important center, naming it for William Boyd, a trustee who had so much to do with keeping Silver Bay afloat in the 1920's. And to think it all started over a hundred years ago, when he introduced his young daughters to Silver Bay in the summer of 1910."

BESTE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The following students received Beste Scholarship awards at a Pasta Buffet and Awards Ceremony hosted by Silver Bay Association on Saturday, January 14, 2017:

Cassandra Martucci, who is attending Adirondack Community College majoring in business administration. She is the daughter of David and Bonnie Martucci.

Cassidy McKee, who is attending Adirondack Community College, majoring in marketing and business administration. She is the daughter of Glenn and Lori McKee.

Alexis Sanders, who is attending SUNY Plattsburgh, majoring in chemistry. She is the daughter of Heather Dunklee.

These students represent the first graduates who will be eligible to receive a Beste award for the next three years of their higher education, according to the newly revised scholarship program guidelines.

The Northern Lake George Rotary Club held a silent auction at the awards ceremony. The Rotary Club and the Hague Oktoberfest Committee each presented the Beste Scholarship Fund with donations. Silver Bay Association donated 100% of the cost of the dinner and the proceeds from ticket sales.

The Beste Steering Committee sincerely thanks all those who donated to the fund between April 2016 and February 2, 2017:

Kathleen Davis Backus
Belden Property Services – Peter and Tori Belden
Fred Berger
Bruno and Dorothy Brauner
Cathy Clark
Margaret A. Darrin
Tim and Michele Gautreau
Hague Oktoberfest Committee
Jules and Gale Halm
Tom James
Northern Lake George Rotary Club
Mr. and Mrs. C. Parlin
Paul and Michele Perry
Jamie and Robin Robibero
Silver Bay General Store – Sal and Kathy Santaniello
Barbara C. Smith
Trout House Village Resort – The Patchett Family
Donald and Alane Vogel
Bill and Katy Wells
Walt and Kay Wells

It's never too late to give. Send your donations to "The Beste Scholarship Fund," Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.

SENIOR NEWS

At our regular meeting on January 24, 2017, our new officers were installed and our guest speakers Jan and Bob Whitaker spoke about AARP and taxes.

Our February meeting will be on the 28th at 1:30 pm. We'll play Bingo, so please bring a small gift to share for the winners. On March 1st, Game Night will be at Maureen and Mike Cherubini's house at 6:30 pm, so come on out and join the fun and laughs that are sure to take place. March 9th will find us hitting the road to the Hyde Museum and then to lunch in Glens Falls. We'll meet at the Community Center at 10 am.



On March 17th, we will have our St. Patty's Day Party at the Community Center at 4:30 pm. This is an annual event that is always fun with delicious food, laughter, music and more. So, come on out and enjoy yourself --- be Irish for a Day! The club will provide corned beef, cabbage and potatoes. You bring a dessert, candy, a pot of gold or whatever makes you feel lucky.

To those of you who are not yet members and would like to join in on any events, please contact Maureen at 543-6463 or Gladie at 543-6055.

by Pat Hintze

SILVER BAY ACTIVITIES

February 24, 2017, 5:30 pm, video presentation *Discovering California* by Rob Fischer and buffet dinner, Dining Hall, \$10/adult and \$5/child.

Men's and Women's Breakfasts, Friday, March 3, 7:30-9 am, Brookside and Trinity Houses.

Spiritual Life Reading Group, March 3 and 17 (1st and 3rd Fridays), 9:30 am, Trinity House.

Dinner and a Movie, Friday, March 10, 6 pm, "Rosewater", Dining Hall, \$10 suggested donation.

HVFD

In the month of January, we had ten fire calls and drills using 105 volunteer hours and four EMS calls with 26.5 hours.

The firemen have been meeting every Tuesday night for drills.

Tony Martucci was voted in as a new junior member. A junior member must be 16 years old, be approved by the Board of Directors and then voted on by the membership. We are happy to have Tony on board!

This year's memory tree raised \$590. The fund was started by Imogene Frazier in memory of her son Dale and the tradition has been carried on by her daughter, Diane Trudeau. Donations were greatly appreciated.

A full report about our Winter Weekend will be in the March issue of the *Hague Chronicle*.

Stay warm and safe!

by Meg Haskell

MEMORIAL DAY IN HAGUE



Hague will celebrate Memorial Day on Saturday, May 27, 2017. There will be a family funfest at the beach, a parade, which will include a variety of floats, bands, fire trucks, old cars, etc. and a memorial service. This year, the theme for the parade is "Honoring America". We are honoring ALL military veterans.

If anyone wishes to march, have a float in the parade or be a vendor, please contact Maureen Cherubini at 543-6463.

We are seeking military veterans to march or ride in the parade along with Hague's Memorial Unit. Uniforms would be great, but are not necessary. Call Mike Cherubini 543-6463.

Donations, regardless of how small, would be appreciated. Checks should be made out to Hague Senior Citizens Club-Parade Account and mailed to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out by volunteers on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is the previous Wednesday.

Please send all news items to Editor, Bobbi Bryant Taylor, at: <editor@thehaguechronicle.org>.

Please send address corrections or account questions to the Publisher, Judy Stock, at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label for due date) tax deductible contribution, made out to The Hague Chronicle, to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
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Publisher: Judy Stock

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WATER QUALITY MATTERS

"Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George"



Green lawn. Green lake. The idea and the connection are very simple. Fertilizers we use on our lawns and flower gardens end up in the lake through rainwater runoff. Data that has been collected on Lake George water quality over the last 30 years have shown that the levels of nutrients in the lake have increased dramatically. Levels of Chlorophyll a, which is a direct measurement of the levels of phytoplankton and algae in the lake, have increased dramatically. People have noticed, particularly in the southern basin, that the water looks greener in certain areas. Yes, some of this is due to poorly functioning septic tanks and sewer systems, but that's another topic. One simple step we can all do is eliminate or greatly reduce the use of fertilizers on our lawns and gardens.

What about pesticides? No one has said much on this topic. Several years ago we started an awareness program and posted many "Adirondack Lawn" signs around the lake to promote the elimination of lawn fertilizers and pesticides. It stands to reason that anything toxic to lawn pests might be more generally toxic to some extent. According to a group called Beyond Pesticides, "Of 30 commonly used lawn pesticides, 16 are linked with cancer or carcinogenicity, 12 are linked with birth defects, 21 with reproductive effects, 25 with liver or kidney damage, 14 with neurotoxicity and 17 with disruption of the endocrine (hormonal) system. Of those same 30 lawn pesticides, 19 are detected in groundwater, 20 have the ability to leach into drinking water sources, 30 are toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms vital to our ecosystem, 29 are toxic to bees, 14 are toxic to mammals and 22 are toxic to birds." This was from data generated outside the Lake George basin, but it illustrates the general problem.

As I began to think about this column, I happened to turn the TV on to a program about the life of Rachel Carson. She wrote the preeminent environmental awareness book of our time called "Silent Spring", published in 1962 about the dangers of chemicals used in agriculture. It was on the bestseller list for many weeks and is still highly recommended reading.

What can be done? Some towns have begun to enact ordinances to control the use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides and to level fines against those property owners who do not comply. The Town of Queensbury passed an ordinance in 2011 (Chapter 107 of the town code) and other towns are considering following suit. It is important that all towns in the basin take steps to control this problem. If you agree, let your Town of Hague board members know by sending them an email expressing your opinion. Their email addresses can be found on the town website: <<http://www.townofhague.org/boards/town-board>>.

Visit HWQAC on Facebook at <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/182043721953952>> or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider, Director, Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Steve Ramant, or Mike Strutz.

by Mike Strutz

ON THE ICE OF LAKE GEORGE

It's been almost 25 years since I first went ice fishing on Lake George with my stepfather, Gus, who had been going out on that ice for two decades. It was the morning after Punxsutawney Phil surprised no one by predicting six more weeks of winter and the thermometer read 9 degrees above zero, as we loaded his truck with a gas-powered auger, a manual auger as a backup, and three fishing poles that looked a little like those Pocket Fisherman they advertised on late night TV.

After trudging through a hundred yards of knee-deep snow, we slid down a bank onto the frozen water. To my relief the wind had blown most of the snow from the ice. Gus led the way along the edge, knowing just where to head out onto the lake. There must have been some snow covered landmark on the shore, but I failed to ask. Instead I was more interested in why the ice had turned to slush under the snow and whether we should forget the whole thing.

"When the ice pushes up against the shore," Gus explained, "sometimes water is forced on top. It's usually nothing to worry about." I tried to gather courage from that but the word usually bothered me. "Just be thankful there's snow on the ice," he added. "Without it you can see clear to the bottom, then it's like walking on a sheet of glass."

As we trudged farther onto the lake though unseen thigh-high drifts, I blundered into a miniature white tornado. "Those are called snow devils," he laughed, as frostbite prevention methods entered my mind. Finally we stopped, and with one pull on the auger, he began drilling into the ice. As water gushed out of the hole, the ice wasn't as thick as I had hoped. Now I not only worried that I would fall through the ice; what would I do if he did?

By then I was thoroughly convinced this was not fun as Gus handed me one of the mini-poles and explained how to go about catching fish. In no time, he pulled up the first of many yellow perch we would catch that day.

As I watched him, the bright February sun pierced the Arctic cold, and I became lost in the solitude, enjoying the crispness of the air and the sparkle of the snow crystals falling around me. A slight tug on my line aroused me, but when I jerked my pole I lost whatever had mistaken my plastic grub for something appetizing. "What should I do when I get a bite?" I asked, thinking maybe there was a secret to getting fish out of that hole. "Well, try to catch him," he shrugged. And I knew that was a dumb question.

With frozen fingers and numb toes we continued to drill our holes, drop our lines and land our perch. But finally, when the hole I was fishing emptied, we both knew it as time to call it a day; so we headed back toward shore, fishing the old holes one more time. By then I was no longer worried about the thickness of the ice or the coldness of my feet; instead I thought of the many years I had missed sharing with Gus the beauty of Adirondack winters and the fun of jigging for perch on the ice of Lake George.

by Michael Kowalsky

Mike and his wife are seasonal residents in Hague at a home which formerly belonged to his parents, Gus and Nancy Getta.

TOWN BOARD MEETING – 2/14/2017

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Steve Ramant, Ginger Kuenzel, Michael Cherubini and Marty Fitzgerald were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Nancy Stolarsky.

Under committee reports:

Assessor & Justice (Fitzgerald/Kuenzel) – none

Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement (Fitzgerald/Cherubini) - nothing significant

Finance & Insurance (Ramant/Cherubini) – none

Highway (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – Councilman Ramant gave a short report in the absence of Highway Superintendent Smith. He noted that more salt has come in, the new truck is up and running, the fingerprint clock has been set up and roads are looking good. Ramant also noted that Smith will put sand on senior citizens' driveways that are icy.

Museum & Historian (Kuenzel/Ramant) – Councilman Kuenzel reported that the historian has submitted her report for the year and is doing a great job. The Historical Society is working on a Graphite exhibit. The metal signs to be put up on historical buildings need more research, but will be up before summer for a walking tour.

Personnel (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – Councilman Cherubini reported they had had a few meetings.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Kuenzel/Ramant) – Supervisor Frasier reported for ZEO Clark that the permitting for work in Silver Bay will be starting in March. The board approved attendance by members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and ZEO for the Local Government Day on April 6 – 7, 2017 in Lake Placid.

Recreation & Promotion & Youth (Ramant/Cherubini) – Councilman Ramant reported that the HITS organization had cancelled their Triathlon in Hague this summer.

Sewer Districts #1 & # 2 (Frasier/Kuenzel) – Supervisor Frasier reported that the DEC had accepted the Sewer Asset Management Plan but they have not yet lifted the Consent Order.

Town Park & Beautification (Ramant/Frasier) – The board approved a resolution to contract with Santore’s Fireworks for July 2, 2017, with a rain date of July 3, for the town fireworks. The cost of \$10,000 is in the budget.

In other business, the board:

Approved a request from the Senior Citizens Club to use the Visitor Center for the Memorial Day Parade activities and the Senior Café during Americade.

Approved the yearly contract with Cedarwood Engineering whose employees are paid by the hour.

Approved a resolution to give the supervisor authority to sign the agreement between Warren County (acting on behalf of the Warren-Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging) and the Town of Hague for the Senior Bus.

Discussed a proposal for Hague to be the applicant for a grant for a Lakes to Locks project entitled *The Lake George Blueway Trail*. The project would unify the towns around Lake

George and would integrate land and water-based resources as a “key component of the regional waterfront revitalization strategy.” The Blueway Trail would link the historic, natural, cultural and recreational resources along the Lake George shoreline.

Accepted the resignation of Deputy Registrar Bertha Dunsmore and appointed Nancy Young to the position.

Discussed a letter from Ken Engler on the redundancy of signs. The town is still waiting for the DOT to approve the Split Rock speed sign.

Heard a report from the Warren County Chamber of Commerce from Councilman Cherubini. He noted that they are fund-raising by selling cheesecakes for a Martucci Memorial Scholarship in hotel management in honor of the late Mark Martucci.

PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

David Martucci, Sole Assessor, urges all **primary residence** homeowners to contact the office (543-6161) to see if they are eligible for the following exemptions:

Senior Citizens’ exemption: Primary residence homeowners over age 65 with the following household income ceilings for the listed taxing jurisdictions:

County	\$32,399 (Includes sliding scale)
Town	\$23,700 (Includes sliding scale)
School	\$30,399 (Includes sliding scale)

This exemption **must be renewed** each year. Renewal forms were sent in late December to those who had this exemption last year.

Enhanced STAR exemption: Primary residence homeowners over age 65 with household income less than \$86,000. This exemption **must be renewed** each year, unless you are enrolled in the Income Verification program. Renewal forms were mailed in late December to those who had this exemption last year. New applicants should apply for the Star Credit Program online at <www.tax.ny.gov/star>; or by calling 518-457-2036.

Basic STAR exemption: Primary residence homeowners with annual income below \$500,000. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year. New applicants should apply for the Star Credit Program online at <www.tax.ny.gov/star>; or by calling 518-457-2036.

Veterans’ exemption: Primary residence homeowners with military service during wartime periods. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year.

Details and applications are available Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm. **The filing deadline is March 1, 2017.**

WALKING FOR SENIORS



The Ticonderoga Elementary-Middle School will be open from 3:30 to 5:30 pm on days when school is in session for senior citizens who want to exercise by walking. Walkers are asked to sign-in at the Middle School entrance upon arrival.

RAY SNYDER – HAGUE SENIOR OF THE YEAR



The 2016 Hague Senior of the Year was Ray Snyder, together with his wife, Diane.

Ray has actively served the Hague community in a number of ways. He was first appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals when Hague zoning began in the 1980s and served for eight years. He was appointed again in 2011 and is still serving.

He has been an active member of the Hague Seniors, serving a term as Second Vice-President, and has been an important member of their Memorial Day Parade Committee for twelve years. He joined the Hague Historical Society in 2009 and served on their board for several years. He made numerous contributions, including the coordination and installation of Hague’s historic roadside markers. He recently retired as a member of the Hague Historical Society Board and was feted by them at an afternoon reception.

Born in Ticonderoga on May 25, 1937, Ray attended the Ticonderoga schools. During his senior year, he joined the Navy and there received his GED. He served in Alaska and California, and then was stationed in Sasebo, Japan for 2 1/2 years on the USS Luzon. He recalled that during a typhoon, the ship almost went over. He traveled to Hong Kong twice and all over Japan



including to Nagasaki, which was still rebuilding from destruction. In his four years as a seaman, he worked with radar when at sea and in the post office when in port.

After the Navy, he returned to the Adirondacks and started working for International Paper Company in Ticonderoga, where he was employed for 39 years, until his retirement in 1999. He bought a 19-acre farm and home in 1961 on New Hague Road, where he still lives. He married Diane Brown from Ticonderoga in 1962. They have two children: Michelle, who lives on a farm west of Brockport, NY and Jim who lives in Ticonderoga. They have eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Ray has had many interests from collecting stamps and postcards, to doing puzzles (“one going all the time”) to reading (a mystery or western every day). He has displayed some of

his many collections, including old bottles he found buried on his property, at Hague Historical Society programs. He is also an accomplished gardener and his property has been known for the beautiful gladioli viewed by those who pass by. He no longer plants those bulbs, but has built six walls on which he grows a variety of flowers. He also cans tomatoes and freezes beans.

One of Ray’s most prized possessions is a gold coin he inherited from an aunt, which is currently on display at the Hancock House in Ticonderoga. The coin features an image of a mastodon and is thought to be several thousand years old. An article on the coin and its origins appeared in the April 7, 1949 issue of *The Ticonderoga Sentinel*.

Ray has enjoyed outdoor activities in the Adirondacks. He was an ice-fisherman and a hunter until he retired. He and his family often went out in their boat on Lake George for fishing and for picnics.

Ray Snyder embodies the qualities that small communities across our region and beyond rely upon to make things happen for the good of all. Hats off to you, Ray!

HAGUE RESIDENTS MARCHED



Lewis, NY



Boston, MA

As Women’s Marches were held throughout the world on Saturday, January 21, 2017, Hague was represented in several different locations. The ones we know of are: Judy Stock, Seddon Beaty, Jan Whitaker, Sandy Powell and Mae Pagan were at the gathering at the gravesite of suffragette Inez Milholland in Lewis, NY. The DeLarm sisters Sheri Ginn, Sally Rypkema and Susan Sandman along with Cris Ginn and Rich Sandman marched in Boston, MA. Ginger Kuenzel was at the rally in Philadelphia, PA and members of the Toner family marched in Washington, DC. Another group of Hague residents were in NYC including Donna, Bob and Kate Levenstien, Diane Marr Asiel, Mary Behr, Lauren, Ken and Anna Parlin, Stacey Shearer, Fletcher North, and Alex and Mariah Baron. Kim Bryant marched in Charlottesville, VA.



Washington, DC



New York, NY

NEW BOARD FOR TACC



Matthew Courtright of the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) has announced their 2017 Board of Directors, including changes to the Executive Committee and the addition of new board members.



(Left to right) Matthew Courtright (TACC), Jonathan LaLone, Sally Rypkema, Laurie Cossey, Shana Macey, Starr Pelerin, Molly Bechard (TACC), Allison Kaupelis, Starr Smith. Note: Not all board members/staff are pictured.

Executive Committee:

President - Shana Macey (Bridge Point Communication/Crown Point Telephone Company)

Vice Presidents - Karen Hennessy (Sugar Hill Manor B&B), Allison Kaupelis (Best Western Plus Ticonderoga), Kristin Thompson (Inter Lakes Health) and Sally Rypkema (Hague Market/Juniper on 2)

Treasurer: Starr Pelerin (Upstate Agency)

Directors: Carolyn Ida (International Paper Company), Andrew Rasmus (Libby's Bakery Café), Starr Smith (Glens Falls National Bank), Kristie Watrous (Mt. Lakes Services/Billy Bob's Orchard), Jonathan LaLone (Wal-Mart of Ticonderoga), Carolyn Close (Silver Bay YMCA) and Laurie Cossey (Ticonderoga Central School District)

Past President: Scarlette Merfeld (Sun Community News)

Ex-Officio: Joseph Giordano (Town of Ticonderoga Supervisor)

In addition, there are three committee chairs who are not TACC board members including: Emma Jean and Carol Okusky (Car Show Co-Chairs) and Theresa Abare (Community Appreciation Dinner and Awards Ceremony Chairperson)

TACC serves, markets and promotes the Ticonderoga Area, which includes Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Hague, Moriah and Putnam.

For more information, contact the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce.

phone:585-6619
email : <chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com>
or visit: <www.ticonderogany.com>.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO LGA MEET CHALLENGE



Thanks to the generosity of many people, the Lake George Association (LGA) was able to meet the end-of-the-year fundraising challenge put forth by Peter and Gretchen Menzies. As a result, the LGA will receive an extra \$17,500 for programs and projects for next year.

It will be able to develop and support a new program to tell the story of Lake George water protection, which will be centered on an historic 34-foot Elco Cruisette that was donated to the LGA in 2016.

The donations and matching funds also mean that the LGA can develop new programs to teach about Lake George's biological life in area schools, businesses and visitors centers. It may also be able to fund an additional Lake-Saving Project to protect Lake George's water quality.

MASON/STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A public roast turkey breast dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Friday, February 24, 2017, from 4:30-6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga (across from the Stone House). Take-outs will be available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door. Parking will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House parking lot.

HOUSES NEEDED FOR CELEBRITIES



TREKonderoga 2017 will take place August 25-27, 2017. The convention is a partnership between The Star Trek Original Series Set Tour in downtown Ticonderoga and the Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance (TRA) for the purpose of boosting tourism in the area.

For two years in a row, several of the celebrity guests have stayed in lake and mountainside cottages and have raved about the experience. Now other celebrity guests want a real Lake George experience as well!

The organizers are looking for several cottages where original Star Trek celebrities can stay while they are here. If you are interested in offering your cottage to a Star Trek celebrity for the four nights of Thursday, August 24th through Monday, August 28th, please call Nancy Archer, TRA Co-Director, at 503-5357. TRA will pay \$100 to cover a cleaning fee and will provide you with a donation letter for the rental amount you would have received had the cottage been rented. This is your chance to meet a real Star Trek celebrity and make a tax deductible charitable contribution!



Benjamin Van Buren



Photo of Benjamin Van Buren in the Hague Historical Museum archives

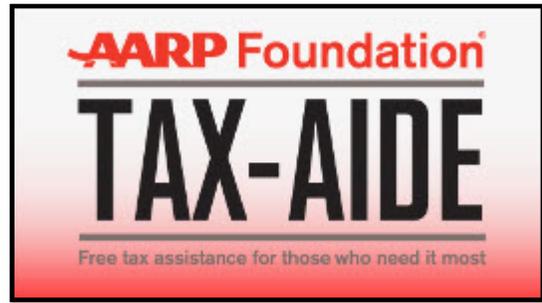
Benjamin Van Buren (1800 – 1877) was a black gentleman who holds an interesting place in the history of Hague. Most of the information we know about him comes from the research of Charles Gosselink of Silver Bay. The full text of Gosselink’s book can be found online.

The Hague Chronicle, in its July 2002 issue, reported, “Benjamin Van Buren’s Bay’ is a fascinating history of Van Buren/Oneida Bay and the families who first settled there.”

Gosselink stated that, the 161-acre Van Buren farm was on the shore of what was then called Benjamin Van Buren’s Bay (currently called Oneida Bay). “There he had his log house and farm and there he and his wife raised their family of eight children,” he explained.

His wife, Jane, died in 1866 and is buried in the Hague Heritage cemetery off Pine Orchard Road. Gosselink says Benjamin “is listed as being buried in the Hague Cemetery on Route 8, but neither his nor any other Van Buren grave has been found.”

FREE HELP WITH TAXES



Local free income tax preparation in Hague and Ticonderoga is underway. Our AARP Tax Aide team has already filed federal and state returns for many of your friends and neighbors. You can take advantage of this free service by calling the Hague Community Center at 543-6161 to make an appointment before the end of the 2016 filing season in mid-April. Appointment times are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, between 9 am and 4 pm at the Community Center; appointments are also available at the North Country Community College in Ticonderoga on three more Fridays, 11:30 am to 4 pm, on February 24, March 10 and March 31.

Returns are prepared by AARP volunteers who are trained and certified annually. There is no charge for this service. Be sure to bring the following to your appointment: photo ID, Social Security cards for taxpayer, spouse and all dependents, W2s, 1099s, interest and dividend statements, health insurance coverage information for taxpayer, spouse and all dependents and a copy of last year’s tax return.

FORT FEVER SERIES

Clothing and Accoutrement Workshops will be offered at Fort Ticonderoga on March 11 and 12, 2017.

The “Fort Fever Series” continues. The lecture series will be held on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door; Fort Ticonderoga members are admitted free of cost.

On March 12, 2017, the program will be “Basse Ville: Vernacular Architecture of the Lower Town at Carillon.” Supplying the rising walls of French Fort Carillon was a collection of storehouses, kilns and ovens, known simply as the “Basse Ville” or Lower Town. Assistant Director of Interpretation, Nicholas Spadone, will explore the melding of old world French framing with Canadian materials and practices that characterized the building below the walls of the old French fort.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER GIVES GRANT

The Ticonderoga International Paper Foundation has recently awarded Fort Ticonderoga a grant to support a shoreline buffer garden designed to educate visitors on how native plants prevent erosion, to provide a buffer on the Lake Champlain shore and to promote pollination.

The \$1,500 grant will be used to purchase the plants, compost and mulch for a shoreline buffer garden, and for the development and installation of interpretive signage. The garden will be open to the public beginning in May 2017.

Shoreline buffer gardens are one way that residents of the Lake George watershed can keep Lake George waters clean and pristine.

~SOUNDINGS~

DIED: Alfred H. Bowen, 87, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by four generations of his family on November 30, 2016.

He had been a seasonal resident of Arcady Bay in Hague since 2000.

Mr. Bowen served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He held a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from New York University.

Al was deeply loved by his family and many friends. He will be remembered for his fine mind, his appreciation of all things beautiful, his love of words from puns and crossword puzzles to the deepest poetry, his ethics and his loving Christian spirit.

Mr. Bowen is survived by, his wife of 63 years, Joan; their children Christopher (Darlene), Robert (Armilyn), Edward, Kenneth (Laura), Andrew, Kathleen Ha (YongSoo) and Daniel; ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Bill, of San Angelo, TX.

TICONDEROGA HONOR ROLL



"Quality Education committed to excellence and equity - whatever it takes."

Congratulations to the following Hague students who are on the Ticonderoga Schools Honor Rolls for the second marking period.

Ticonderoga High School

Grade 12

First Honors – Nicholas Fitzgerald, Dalton Granger and Connor Lawrie
Second Honors – Kaylee Coon

Grade 11

First Honors – Fallon Kennedy
Second Honors – Kacey Fish

Grade 10

First Honors – Skye Mason

Grade 9

First Honors – Mckenzie Harrington
Second Honors – Colby Clemons and Kiela Jordon

Ticonderoga Middle School

Grade 7

First Honors - Madalynn Hubbard, Teegan McLaughlin, and Nevaeh Trudeau

Grade 6

Second Honors - Raycia Decker

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish the important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, awards, or deaths to <editor@thehaguechronicle.org> and we'll publish them as space permits. Thank you.

WAR COLLEGE

Registration is now open for Fort Ticonderoga's Twenty-Second Annual War College of the Seven Years' War, May 19-21, 2017. This seminar focuses on the Seven Years' War in North America, also known as the French and Indian War. The War College will take place in the Mars Education Center and is open to the public; pre-registration is required.

Begun in 1996, the War College of the Seven Years' War has become the premier seminar on the French and Indian War in the United States. It features a mix of new and established scholars in an informal setting for a weekend of presentations related to the military, social and cultural history of the French and Indian War.



Speakers will include:

Brady J. Crytzer, Robert Morris University, "The Kittanning Raid of 1756: The Politics of Indian War and the End of Pennsylvania's Peaceable Kingdom."

John M. Dixon, College of Staten Island, City University of New York, "Colden's War: A View from the New York Frontier."

Joseph Gagné, Laval University, "Unconquered: Two French Retreats to Louisiana in 1760."

Paul Kelton, University of Kansas, "Disease Diplomacy: How Rumors of Smallpox, Outbreaks, and Diabolical Schemes Shaped the Course of Empire in North America."

David MacDonald, Illinois State University (retired), "French Illinois and the Seven Years' War."

Gary G. Shattuck, researcher, "Colonel Ephraim Williams and the 'Bloody Morning Scout': An Evolution in Colonial Warfare."

Jessica L. Wallace, George College & State University, "'A Little Stumbling Block': The Cherokee War and Challenges of Alliance on the Southern Frontier."

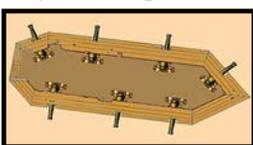
The War College will also feature a presentation by Matthew Keagle, Fort Ticonderoga Museum's Curator. There will also be a Saturday evening program by Researcher George A. Bray III.

Sunday's sessions conclude with an optional boat cruise aboard M/V *Carillon* to explore the events of 1759 on Lake Champlain. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis to War College participants.

Registration is now open at \$145 (\$120 for those registering by March 15th); additional discounts available for Members of Fort Ticonderoga. Registration forms can be downloaded from <www.fortticonderoga.org> under the "Education" tab by selecting "Workshops and Seminars" on the drop down menu and then clicking on the War College. A printed copy is also available upon request by contacting the Business Office at 585-2821.

WHAT IS A LAND TORTOISE?

Believe it or not, it's the name of a ship and a very famous one that's right here in Lake George. Odd name for a ship, isn't it? The name is only part of the allure and intrigue over this "should be more famous than it is" warship from the 18th century. With a pointed bow and butt stern, the *Land Tortoise* was



designed to be a floating gun battery holding seven 24 lb. cannons to protect British troops as they made their way to attack Fort Carillon (now known as Fort Ticonderoga).

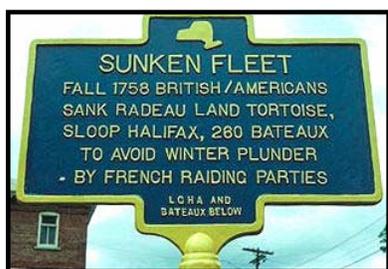
The *Land Tortoise* was built by local carpenters on what is currently known as "Dog Beach", which is next to Million Dollar Beach in Lake George Village. There are still original cribs from her docks in very good shape just off-shore in about six feet of water.

The *Land Tortoise* was part of the "Sunken Fleet" of 1758. Hundreds of vessels were constructed by Americans for the British in their fight with the French. Most of the fleet were bateaux, 25-30 foot vessels used to carry troops. The idea was to sink them in shallow water to protect them from being destroyed by the French during the winter. In the spring, they were to be raised and used to transport troops in the 1759 campaign against Fort Carillon. The *Land Tortoise*, a considerably larger vessel, measuring 50' x 18', was never found.

In 1990, while researching the sunken fleet, The Bateaux Below Team, led by Joe Zarcynski, discovered the *Land Tortoise* in 107' of water using side scan sonar. Long-time summer resident of Hague, Dr. Russ Bellico, joined the team as their photographer. Russ and the team took over 1,000 pictures of the *Land Tortoise*. The Bateaux team dove at night in late October to keep the site safe from being pillaged. One must laud their efforts to dive in 38 degree water for 12 minutes of bottom time with very limited visibility.



The Bateaux team did a great job photographing and documenting the vessel. We believe the efforts of the team and the story they uncovered should be common knowledge.



In 1998, the *Land Tortoise* was listed as a National Historic Landmark, only the sixth shipwreck in the nation with that designation. It also has been designated by the Smithsonian Institution as "the oldest intact war vessel in North America." Only in the clean waters of Lake George could a 259-year-old warship be nearly 100% intact!

The *Land Tortoise* needs to take its proper place as "Lake George's boat" and remain a part of the legacy and history of America and our lake. For more information, go to: <<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/5076.html>>.

To be continued in future issues ...

by Al Rider

NATURALLY SPEAKING

Lake George may not be frozen yet, but every winter I wonder how fish live under the ice. The answer, according to University of Wisconsin-Madison's Center for Limnology, the study of lakes and bodies of fresh water is "not much different than the rest of the year." Fish eat, breathe and try to avoid becoming lunch.

Fish don't have the luxury of hibernating. They have to keep moving enough to pass water over their gills to continue to breathe, but everything slows down.

Most forage fish, which serve as prey for bigger fish, have to stay really still and not expend a lot of energy, so they hide out in structures or weed beds where there is cover and food.

Predator fish hide near the weed beds, waiting for something to venture out, but the predators don't eat much. They generally lose weight in winter because they can't find enough food to make up for the calories they are burning just staying alive.

Another concern is oxygen. With an ice lid on Lake George, little oxygen enters the water and fish are left to survive on what was introduced into the lake during the fall. They don't want to burn through their oxygen reserve, so they slow down.

How a lake freezes is just as interesting as the fish in it. During the summer, Lake George is thermally stratified, which means warm lower density water sits on top of cold higher density water. As summer changes to fall, the upper layers cool, breaking down the density difference. The surface of Lake George cools to four degrees Celsius (39.2 degrees Fahrenheit), the temperature at which water is most dense. This causes the water at the surface to settle to the bottom, pushing the now relatively warmer water at the bottom back to the surface. This process continues until the surface water cools to four degrees Celsius, at which point it freezes. Remember, water is most dense at exactly four degree Celsius; it becomes less dense above and below this temperature. If water were most dense as a solid, Lake George would freeze from the bottom up, eventually completely freezing all the way through. In that case, little or nothing would survive in the lake. The ice and snow on the surface act to insulate the water below.

The next time you are out on a frozen lake (maybe even our own Lake George), pause for a moment to think about what is happening beneath your feet.

by Connie Smith

ONGOING EVENTS

- 1st Monday: Fire Department (7 pm)
- 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls (8:30 am)
- Every Tuesday: Champlain Chorale (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Ticonderoga School Board (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7 pm)
- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays: Ti'Coustics (7 pm)
- 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
- 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (10 am)
- Every Tuesday: Rotary Club (7:30 am)
- Every Thursday: Kiwanis (12 noon)
- 1st Friday: Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
 PO Box 748
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ATTACH
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 POSTAGE



ADDRESS LABEL

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

-10-

HAGUE CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 23 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 24 4:30 - 6 pm Mason/Star roast turkey breast dinner
- 24 5:30 pm Dinner and a Movie at Silver Bay
- 28 1:30 pm Seniors Club Meeting

LAKE FREEZES



Hague Bay closed in on Monday, February 13, 2017 after the latest snowfall. All the other areas around Hague are frozen and covered with snow. For additional photos see our Facebook page.

MARCH

- 1 DEADLINE FOR REGULAR COLUMNS
- 2 7 pm Planning Board
- 10 6 pm Dinner and a Movie, *Rosewater*, at Silver Bay
- 11 and 12 Clothing and Accoutrement Workshop at Ft. Ti
- 12 2 pm Fort Fever Lecture-Ft. Ti
- 12 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 14 6 pm Town Board Meeting
- 15 NEWS DEADLINE FOR *The Hague Chronicle*
- 16 7 pm Pops Concert at Ticonderoga HS Auditorium
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 4:30 pm Seniors Club St. Patrick's Day Party
- 21 1:30 pm Seniors Club Meeting
- 21 7 pm Budget workshop and Board of Ed. meeting at Ticonderoga HS Cafeteria
- 22 *The Hague Chronicle* mailed out and online
- 23 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals

TRANSFER STATION HOURS
 September 2 thru June 30
 Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm
 Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm
 Sunday: CLOSED