



## GET INVOLVED

### IMMEDIATE ATTENTION—PLANNING BOARD

Applicants for the opening on the Planning Board must indicate their interest by Friday, February 20, 2009. Call the Community Center at 543-6161.

### TICONDEROGA SCHOOL BOARD OPENING

There will be an opening on the Ticonderoga School Board with the retirement of Dick Frasier of Hague. It is hoped that another Hague resident will take on this important volunteer activity. The process entails picking up petitions from Barbara Greer, District Clerk, then having them signed and returned to Barbara by April 20, 2009. For additional information you can call Wendy Davis at 585-9158.

### MARCH 1st DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

Primary residence homeowners should contact the Assessor's Office (543-6161) to see if they are eligible for the following partial property tax exemptions:

**Senior Citizens' exemption:** primary residence homeowners over age 65 with the following new household income ceilings:

County & Town \$23,700 (Includes sliding scale)

School \$30,399 (Includes sliding scale)

This exemption *must be renewed each year*.

**Basic STAR exemption:** primary residence homeowners, regardless of age or income. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year once the first application is approved.

**Enhanced STAR exemption:** primary residence homeowners over age 65 (during year 2009) with household income less than \$73,000. This exemption *must be renewed each year*, unless the owner participates in the Optional Income Verification Program.

**Veterans' exemption:** military service during wartime periods.

Details and applications are available Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm. **The filing deadline is March 1, 2009.**

### HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

The Hague Fish & Game Club, in conjunction with the Hague and Ticonderoga Chambers of Commerce and assisted by the Hague Sno-goers, is celebrating its 50th anniversary by hosting the Northern Lake George Ice Fishing Tournament for the weekend of February 28th - March 1st.

Tournament Chairman, Steve Ramant said, "This Tournament should be the best ever. An added bonus will be immediate weigh-in at Clubhouse with the Lake Services provided by the Hague Sno-Goers."

With anticipated registrations of over 300, plus the value of the prize merchandise, more than \$3,000 in cash and merchandise will be in the prize pool. There will be 4 categories for both Adult and Junior Divisions: Lake Trout, Salmon, Northern Pike and Perch.

Registration will be at the Hague Beach Visitor Center, junction of Rt 8 and Rt 9N, on both mornings starting at 6 am. The adult fee is \$10 and juniors, 16 and under, register for free. The awards ceremony will be at the Fish & Game Clubhouse, 488 West Hague Rd on Sunday at 4 pm.

Ramant continued, "In addition, we will be having Hourly Blind Prize drawings both days. Come out and join us on the hard water, have fun and maybe you'll be the BIG WINNER !!!"

## 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

On the political trail, Kirsten Gillibrand is now the Junior Senator from New York and an election will be held soon to fill her spot in the Congress. Running for the position of House Representative from the 20th District are Democrat Scott Murphy, a Glens Falls businessman and Jim Tedisco, leader of the Assembly Republican Conference in Albany.

## MEMORIAL FLOWER BASKETS

A reminder that memorial donations for the hanging flower baskets which grace the downtown hamlet can be sent to the Town of Hague, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836-0509.

## THE HAGUE CHRONICLE BOARD MEETS

Entering its 38th consecutive year, *The Hague Chronicle* Board of Directors held its annual meeting on February 3, 2009.

Present were Judy Stock, Editor/Publisher, Dorothy Henry, Editor/Publisher Emerita, George Ianson, Treasurer, Nancy Young, Secretary, Christine Ianson and John Barber. Also on the Board are Michele Gautreau and Pat McDonough.

The financial report indicates that the balance for 2008 was \$8969.04. That amount will be decreased by current expenses due of \$1,136 and purchase of a new laptop computer and printer/scanner. Funds beyond current operating expenses are held in a CD and the interest is used to fund *The Hague Chronicle*/Dorothy Henry scholarship for a Ticonderoga HS senior.

The current mailing list contains 691 names and *The Hague Chronicle* is sent to 32 states and 2 foreign countries (Germany and Australia). It is currently staffed by 23 volunteer workers but more are always welcome - especially for reporting and special projects.

As you have seen in the past two issues there is a new "look" to *The Hague Chronicle*. We would like your opinions and comments on the new "look" and would love to hear any suggestions or ideas you would like to share as we go forward.

If you would like to volunteer, contact Judy Stock <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com> or 518-543-6517. Send comments on the new "look" to Jim Henderson, the new Layout Editor <jimkhenderson@comcast.net > or 860-635-7300.

## WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

Vinnie and Minna Jones reported seeing a fisher on two different occasions near their house on the Hague Brook. Vinnie said that it jumped from rock to rock in the brook because as he explained, "They don't like to get wet!"

Dolly Kennedy, Dottie Henry and Gale Halm all spent time watching a barred owl in Pine Cove. Dolly sent us this report from "A day in the Life of a Barred Owl."



*Barred Owl* photo courtesy of Gale Halm

"I arrived at Pine Cove early in the morning February 3rd, 2009 and pounced upon a fat gray squirrel. I found a sturdy limb outside of Dolly Kennedy's kitchen window where I could secure my killed prey. Although my feet are small and weak, I held onto my prey all day. After my three plus hour breakfast of three pulled pieces, resting and digesting for about fifteen minutes each time, I slept for the afternoon, twisting my head around every once in awhile. About 5 pm I started eating again and resting until I flew away about 6:45 pm."

## SILVER BAY YMCA OF THE ADKS

Silver Bay's Community Membership is off to a flying start with 55 individuals and 3 families signing on since the offer took effect December 1, 2008. The Free Community Membership - a new initiative - is open to year-round residents of Silver Bay, Hague, Ticonderoga, Putnam, Crown Point and Bolton Landing. The offer, valid through March 31, 2009, gives community members access to Silver Bay's many winter activities like sledding on two designated sledding hills, hiking and snow shoeing on the 700-acre campus as well as use of the Fitness Center, access to ice fishing off Slim Point, and Spiritual Life programs. More details and a monthly schedule of hours and events - the Silver Bay Breeze - is available online at <www.silverbay.org>.

**THE HAGUE CHRONICLE** is mailed out by volunteers on the Thursday after the third Tuesday of each month. The News deadline is six days earlier. Please send news or address corrections to Judy Stock at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

*The Hague Chronicle* is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label) tax deductible contribution, made out to The Hague Chronicle, to George Ianson, Treasurer at:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE  
PO Box 748  
Hague, NY 12836-0748

Editor/Publisher: Judy Stock (518-543-6517)

Editorial Staff: Pat McDonough

Layout Editor: Jim Henderson

Our website: [www.thehaguechronicle.org](http://www.thehaguechronicle.org)

## PANCAKE SUPPER

A free Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held at the Church of the Cross on February 24, 2009. The supper will be held from 4 - 6 pm in the Parish Hall at 129 Champlain Avenue, Ticonderoga, NY. Takeouts will be available and donations will be accepted.

## ROAST BEEF DINNER

A Public Roast Beef Dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F&AM, and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Friday, February 27, 2009, at the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga (across from the Stone House). Take-outs will be available from 4:30-5:00 pm, and dine-in is 5:00-6:30 pm in the downstairs dining hall. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 12 years old and under, and will be available both by advanced sale by members of the Masons and the Stars, and at the door. Public dinners by these two organizations are planned for the last Friday of each month through late Spring.

## MEMORIAL DAY 2009

The Hague Senior Citizens Club will once again be sponsoring the Memorial Day Celebration in town on SATURDAY, MAY 23rd. Please mark your calendars and start planning now. The day's events will include a Family Funfest at the Beach, Linda Benway's Doggie Show, and the Memorial Day Parade with a Dedication Service following. Starting February 23rd, the Parade Committee will be meeting every Monday at the Community Center at 9:30 am. Anyone who wishes to take part in the planning process, please stop in or give me a call - Madeline at 543-6130.

## BOWLING CHAMPS

Congratulations to Hague students Mara Haskell and Jordan McKee who are members of the Ticonderoga Girls Championship Bowling Team. The team won the league championship with a won-lost record of 52-12 games. They went on to win the NYS Section 7 championship and will head to Rochester on March 6th to compete in the State Tournament.

Mara is a senior at Ticonderoga HS whose top game this season was 214. She is also an active member of the HVFD and recently became a certified EMT. Mara is the daughter of Meg and Tom Haskell of Hague.

Jordan is an 8th grader whose interest in bowling started when she was only 5. Her high game this year was 221. She is also committed to a softball league outside of school and will try out for the Ticonderoga modified softball team. Jordan is the daughter of Glenn and Lori McKee of Hague.



Mara Haskell and Jordan McKee

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

January's meeting of the Hague Senior Citizens Club turned out to be a great kickoff for our New Year with five new members coming on board! Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Judy Stock for her service as President of the Executive Board and to Pat McDonough for her service as Secretary. Also we celebrated Julia Middleton's January birthday since she is an honored member of our 90+ CLUB.

Following our business meeting, the Club held a Humor Contest. Those present were divided into seven teams, each delivering one joke per round for the Judges to vote upon. Needless to say there was laughter galore and I am happy to say we have many talented comedians among our members.

The Club had a lunch outing to the Fort View Inn on February 12th. Our monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24th at NOON (please note time change) for our annual Covered Dish Luncheon. Each member brings a dish to share and the Club will provide drinks, nibbles and dessert. Both of these activities will definitely help with those Cabin Fever Days!

As always, we extend an invitation to all of you who are 50+ to come check out our Club on the 24th. New faces are always welcome. If you have any questions about the Seniors, please give me a call, 543-6130. ... Madeline Pelkey

## HVFD NEWS

The Hague Memory Tree, founded in 1988 by Imogene Frasier in memory of her son Dale, raised \$438 this year to benefit the Hague Ambulance Squad. We are most grateful for the thoughtfulness behind this annual gift.

Plans are already in the works for our participation in the Memorial Day Parade and our annual Chicken Bar BQ which follows.

Doug Sham, our fitness coordinator is busy organizing a Fire/EMS Challenge for early April at the Ti Middle School. It will be open to all Warren and Essex County Departments and will be entitled The 911 Challenge Cup. Watch for time and details in later editions.

Fire Police members Dave Snow, Donna Trudeau, Tom Haskell Sr., Bob Rafferty and Joanne Trudeau recently attended a training session in Pottersville and all received their certification and/or re-certification.

There were 5 Fire/EMS calls in January using 8 man hours.

Local ice fishermen report that ice conditions on Lake George are variable; safe in some areas and not so safe in others, so if you do go on the Lake use due caution.

... Joe McCranels



February is American Heart Month

## TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 1/22/09

All Board members were present for a special meeting to discuss personnel issues, the Elan Associates plan for the Veterans Memorial Park and sewer district #2.

A long-standing issue on the reinstatement of family coverage for a particular employee was resolved during an Executive Session.

The Board decided to take down the American Legion structure and rebuild as a replica of the original. The Highway Department can help with the demolition and the American Legion members will have input on the options.

Many concerns were raised by visitors dealing with the EDUs assigned to their property in sewer district #2. Once changes have been finalized, a new list of EDUs will be made and brought to a Board meeting for action.

## TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 1/27/09

All Board members were present for a special meeting to get input from the American Legion about the Veterans Memorial Park. They also learned that an Article 78 petition which was holding up funding for sewer district #2 had been withdrawn and the funds should be available.

## TOWN BOARD MEETING - 2/10/09

Supervisor Dan Belden and Board members Dick Gladu, Mark Martucci, Rudy Meola and Edna Frasier were all present.

They did the monthly audit of the books at 5 pm followed by a meeting with ZEO Cathy Clark at 5:30 pm reviewing the proposed LGPC stream corridor protection regulations. Then at 6 pm, the Board held a public hearing on the Telecommunication Ordinance and at 6:30 pm the regular meeting began.

A moment of silence was held for Louis Fiallo and Ruth Strickling

During the public comments several opinions were heard on the proposed LGPC regulations. [See related article on page 5]

### Town Board Committee Reports

#### 1. Assessor & Justice:

All data inventory exemptions must be filed by March 1, 2009 and the tentative roll will be available on May 1.

#### 2. Buildings & Grounds/Enhancement:

The person who was to do the labor on the building is unable due to illness. The Board wants to review the insurance and pay rate before approving a suggested worker.

#### 3. Finance & Insurance:

Councilwoman Frasier reported that the Town 2008 books are closed out with a report due by the end of February. She also reported that money had to be taken out of a CD for general expenses.

#### 4. Fire Department:

Councilman Gladu reported that the Fire Department has completed its year-end financial statement and copies will be available to review before next month.

#### 5. Highway:

Superintendent Don Smith reported that the new type of salt would not be good on the back roads but the Board would like to experiment on Routes 9N and 8 to see if money can be saved and less salt used that could enter the Lake. The Board approved putting out bids for sand with a deadline for March 6, 2009.

#### 6. Museum & Historian:

Town Historian Crammond continues to computerize the old records.

#### 7. Personnel:

Council members Gladu and Frasier are working on manual updates.

#### 8. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater:

The process for filing the vacancy on the Planning Board involves applications due by February 20, 2009, then interviews and a committee recommendation will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

ZEO Clark will attend the APA Local Government Day in Lake Placid on March 24 and 25.

#### 9. Recreation/Promotion & Youth:

The Board approved supporting a suggestion by Councilman Meola to have a committee to plan events to promote the Town. He said that some ideas are to have events all day long for Memorial Day and more for the days of the Triathlon, Fourth of July, Arts Fair and an event in October. Bob Patchett will be on the committee and others will be added.

The Board also authorized Councilman Meola to take 3 or 4 Hague students to the Warren County Youth Day at ACC. He also reported on statistics of a substance abuse survey of Warren County students.

#### 10. Sewer Districts #1 and #2:

Supervisor Belden reported that Forest Bay is almost all finished and that money had been saved from original contract on the northern section.

#### 11. Town Park:

The flower baskets will be going up and Councilwoman Frasier hopes to have a proposal for the Board by the next meeting on planting and watering the flowers. Also applications may be sent in for summer employment.

#### 12. Transfer Station:

Councilman Gladu has asked Casella Waste Management for a report on waste tonnage by product, class and month. He will then get a package together for a bid.

#### In other business, the Board:

Received a request from the Senior Citizens Club Parade Committee for Town assistance with the Memorial Day parade and events. The main concern is traffic control.

Discussed working with the Highway Department.

Received a memo from the Assessor requesting the Board use the IRS rate of 55 cents per mile for reimbursement. The Board approved using the Warren County rate.

Approved the signing of the Youth Contract with the Town of Ticonderoga for \$1,000.

Authorized \$5000 for the Fourth of July fireworks.

Authorized required post-closure environmental monitoring services.

Approved Resolution #45 relative to the LGPC stream corridor issue.

Designated themselves as lead agent for the Environmental Review for the Telecommunications and Zoning Code amendments.

Received a letter from a resident with concern about the parking of large supply trucks in front of the Firehouse Restaurant.

Set the date of March 10, 2009 at 6:15 pm at the Community Center for a public hearing on the necessary code changes to allow rental of single family homes.

## PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board did not meet on 2/5/09 since there were no applications.

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

O'LEARY (26.10-1-21) 24 Spring Lane (TR-1R)

Approval for a variance for a 13' 6" x 22' deck addition to a nonconforming structure was granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals on 1/22/09.

## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Applications can be sent in for summer employment for lifeguards, Park attendants and staff for the Visitor Center. For further information contact the Town of Hague Community Center 543-6161.

### CLEAR CHOICE

An editorial by Judy Stock

"Clear Choice" is the name of an informational report from the Fund for Lake George subtitled "The Need for Stream Buffers in the Lake George Watershed." We all know that the quality of Lake George is important (certainly for those who use the Lake and for all others in the Watershed who benefit from tourism sales tax and bed tax dollars). Streams that flow into Lake George can carry sediment, pollutants and reduced water quality which impact the health of the Lake. According to the report, "Stream buffers can minimize (these issues) because they stabilize stream banks, moderate water temperature, remove nutrients, trap and remove sediment, control flooding, provide wildlife habitat and improve stream aesthetics." Therefore to positively impact the health of the Lake, stream buffer management is important.

The Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) is required by state law to have a stream buffer program and is finally going through the process to meet this requirement.

We reported last month (*The Hague Chronicle*, V. 38, No.1 on page 9) on the new Stream Corridor Regulations for the Lake George Park. Since then, property owners from towns in the southern basin have expressed concern over these regulations and have requested that towns in the Park indicate their displeasure. The advantage to the controversy is that it has made many in the general public more aware of the provisions of the LGPC guidelines.

A major concern is the permit requirement for development (eg. deck, walkway, building) within 100 feet of a stream. [The current definition for stream appears to be a natural channel in which water runs more than 30 days per year thus not including streams that only appear after a rainstorm or with snow melt.] However, these regulations do not impact on any development which has already taken place. For new de-

velopment there is a variance process if the rules cause a disproportionate effect on a land owner.

To view the LGPC Stream Corridor maps, see <[www.lgpc.state.ny.us/stream\\_maps.html](http://www.lgpc.state.ny.us/stream_maps.html)>

The Hague Town Board passed Resolution #45 of 2009 at their meeting on February 10, 2009. In it they oppose the current LGPC draft regulations and ask the Commission to cease its action until they consult with the Town, show scientific documentation that there is a need and that the "welfare of the property owners" will not be adversely affected. The lack of scientific documentation hardly seems an issue considering all the scientific evidence available (an extensive list is found in the "Clear Choice" report) and recommended support by Lake George Waterkeeper, Chris Navitsky.

Councilman Dick Gladu feels there should be a financial analysis regarding the financial impact. He also thinks that focus should be directed to the 8 major streams [Hague Brook being one of them] and the impact of road salt, phosphates and failed septic system on them. This suggestion is a good one which could still be incorporated now or in future revisions.

The issue of public scrutiny may have some validity. Although the LGPC has held many meetings and published careful responses to objections, there are still many members of the public who are just hearing about these proposed regulations. All property owners who would be affected were supposed to have received a letter from the LGPC but some were overlooked. Councilman Gladu also noted that time has not been given for input from seasonal residents.

The LGPC will hold the next public hearing on February 24, 2009 at 11 am at the Holiday Inn in Lake George. The public comment period is planned to close by March 15, 2009. A State review and public hearing will also be required before any final revisions and a possible enactment in April.

## WINTER WEEKEND FUN

A beautiful sunny weekend with blue skies saw dozens of people ice fishing and helped the success of another Hague Winter Weekend. The HVFD served an excellent breakfast to start the weekend. The winners of the Fred LaPann Memorial Race under the organization of Sal Santaniello were:

- Juniors** 1st -Rich Kohler, Hazlet, NJ
- Co-Ed-Open** 1st - Tavish Costello, SUNY Plattsburgh  
2nd - Marge Hussman, Ticonderoga  
3rd - Meg Taylor, Kittery, ME
- Masters** 1st - Dave Burrows, Ticonderoga  
2nd - Theresa Kauffman, Wilmington, DE  
3rd - Dave Natale, Ticonderoga
- Seniors** 1st - William "Red" McDonough, Port Henry  
2nd - Fred Herbst, Ticonderoga  
3rd - Karen Costello, Hague

The very popular Polar Bear plunge took place off the Patchett's Trout House Dock. Thirty seven brave souls jumped into the frigid water while about 150 onlookers, many of whom ventured out onto the ice, snapped photos and cheered them on.



Are



you



crazy?



The Start



Not Bad!

Silver Bay hosted a community day on Saturday and in one activity Karen Gladu and Carol Pittman braved the climbing wall. The Beste Dinner was a delicious buffet catered by Silver Bay. Sal Santaniello announced the Scholarship recipients: Ryan Ryder studying Liberal Arts at HVCC, Jordon Fuller studying at the Orio School of Cosmetology, Shawn Brunet studying Automotive and High Performance at the University of Northwestern Ohio and Samantha Abare studying Animal Science at SUNY Cobleskill.

There was cross-country skiing at Rogers Rock and the weekend was capped off by a rousing Chili Bake-off at the HVFD hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

*All photos by Judy Stock*

## TMS HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following Hague students who were on the Ticonderoga Middle School Honor Roll for the second marking period.

### GRADE 6:

FIRST HONORS: Ian Lawrie

### GRADE 7:

FIRST HONORS: Jeanette Coon, Ty Denno, Sean Lawrie, Kimberly Porter

### GRADE 8:

FIRST HONORS: Grace Ginn, Bryana Goetsch, Karney Manning, Jordan McKee

SECOND HONORS: Chelsea Kearns

Congratulations also to the following students were on the Sentinel Merit Society for the second marking period.

GRADE 6: Ian Lawrie

GRADE 7: Jeanette Coon, Ty Denno, Sean Lawrie, Kimberly Porter

GRADE 8: Chelsea Kearns, Karney Manning, Jordon McKee



Ryan Ryder with great-grandmother Inza Jordon



Shawn Brunet

On Sunday, the Sno-goers gave snowmobile rides at the Fish & Game Club.



Anyone want a ride?

# Looking Back



## HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society Board met on February 11th and we have lots of projects in the works. We're hoping that the readers of *The Hague Chronicle* can help with some of them!

Living in the Adirondacks in the winter recalls the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid in 1932 and 1980. Here's some of what was in *The Hague Chronicle* in February of 1980:

**"SILVER BAY AND THE OLYMPICS:** Silver Bay Association will host approximately 140 young adult volunteers from Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Norway, W. Germany, and the U.S. A group from the International Administration of the YMCA will be here to assist the Association. These young people will be working at the Athletes' Village, the Accreditation Offices, for the Press Corps, etc. There will be one week of orientation and cultural exchange programs. They plan visits to local schools and other points of interest. There will also be on-site training for their Olympic volunteer jobs.

On Thursday, Feb. 7 there will be a showing of a special film on the history of the Olympic flame and amateur athletics in Morse Hall at 1 P.M. At approximately 2:10 P.M. the ceremony will begin. It will end with the arrival of the torch bearer at about 2:30. Support runners from the volunteer group will accompany the torch bearer from the southern end of Silver Bay Road to the INN.

The Association hopes to devote one evening during the volunteers' stay for an informal get-together with the people of the community."

**"OLYMPIC VOLUNTEERS:** Steve, son of Joe and Cynthia McCranels, Silver Bay, has been accepted as a Press Corps volunteer for the Whiteface Mt. alpine events. He should have some interesting experiences to share.

Debbie Breitenbach of Silver Bay and a teacher in THS is one of the 140 young adult volunteers from Silver Bay Assoc. She expects to be working at Olympic Village."

**"HAGUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** President Bea Polino invites all the residents of Hague to join in welcoming the Olympic Torch Runner on February 7. He will be accompanied by runners Fred LaPann, Donald McCoy and two high school students. A ceremony will be held in the town park at 3:00 PM prior to the runner's arrival. The T.H.S. Band and Chorus will be on hand to provide music for the occasion. The Chamber, under the direction of Lyn Patchett will serve free hot dogs, coffee and soda to all those in attendance. Inza Jordon has been the Town Coordinator for the Olympic festivities in Silver Bay and Hague."

"The important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning, but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering, but fighting.

Baron de Coubertin"

*This series is researched by The Hague Historical Society.*

- Back by popular demand is an evening of "Show and Share" on Tuesday, March 31st at 7 pm at the Community Center. Bring a picture or an artifact (a farm implement, a birdhouse, or a kitchen item) or any item which recalls a story of Hague or your family. We'll all gather around and listen to your story and share in a little more of Hague's history. It'll be near winter's end so call a friend and bring them too -- it'll help with cabin fever!
- In honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Jerry Crammond, our Town Historian, has done an exhibit in the Hague Historical Museum. Be sure to stop in to see it.
- We're working on a new exhibit on Flora and Theresa Sexton and we're seeking information on these two renowned Hague residents -- early female photographers of some repute. Did you know them? Do you have any photographs done by them of your home or your family? We know the circumstances of Flora's death, but need information on how and where Theresa passed away. If you know anything of the Sexton sisters, please contact us at <haguehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com> or P.O. Box 794, Hague, NY 12836, or call Pat McDonough at 543-6725.
- We have had some good responses to our mention last month about doing a program on Houses in Hague. We'd like to hear from more of you! We're hoping to do this program during the summer so if you have a home with some history and are willing to share that information and photographs, please email us at <haguehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com>.
- The Town of Hague is working with the American Legion on plans for the new American Legion Building at the brook. It has been suggested that when the building is ready, it be used to display photographs and other memorabilia from Hague residents who have served in the armed forces. If you have photographs, letters from soldiers, uniforms or any items you would like to have considered for display to honor a Hague service person, please contact Kathi and Steve Ramant at 543-6542.

Please note that anytime you share photos with us we will scan them and return them to you immediately.

...Pat McDonough

**"You may delay, but time will not, and lost time is never found again."**

Ben Franklin

## HAGUE HISTORIAN COLUMN

### ~SOUNDINGS~

**BORN:** Michael Patrick McCarville on December 21, 2008 to Michael and Alison McCarville of Briarcliff Manor, NY. He is the second grandchild for Michael and Bethany (Beadnell) McCarville of Rocky Point, NY and Forest Bay.

**BORN:** A son, Noah Myles Peterson on January 20, 2009 to Melissa and Myles Peterson II of Delanson, NY. Grandparents are Pam and Myles Peterson of Hague and Linda Them of Endwell, NY and William & Patricia Them of Wysox, PA. Great grandparents are Dolly Kennedy of Hague and T.R. and Betty Them of Wyalusing, PA.

**DIED:** Ruth Strickling, 86, of Dumont, NJ, in her home on January 20, 2009. She was predeceased by her husband Harry in 2007. Surviving is a daughter, Elaine Rosales, two sons, Glenn and Scott Strickling and five grandchildren, Justin, Lauren, Keith, Leah & Amy.

In 1966, Ruth and Harry discovered Silver Bay on Lake George and by 1970 had bought a house so they could spend the whole summer there. Soon after, she became the volunteer director of the watercolor program at The Silver Bay Association and didn't retire until she was 83 years old. Her legacy includes hundreds of her watercolors adorning many, many homes.

**DIED:** Louis F. Fiallo, Sr., 68, of Hague, on January 21, 2009. Louis was a permanent resident of Hague since 1992 and was Treasurer of the Hague Fish and Game Club. Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Barbara, daughters Deborah Gerrity of LaGrangeville, NY and Eileen Aubry of Hague, sons Louis Fiallo, Jr. of Brewster, NY, James Fiallo of Wingdale, NY and Timothy Fiallo of Lake Bomoseen, VT, and his sister-in-law Eileen Amara and her husband, Paul, of Hague. He is also survived by eleven grandchildren.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Tavish Costello, son of Karen and Tim Costello of Hague, who made the Dean's List at SUNY Plattsburgh for the 2008 fall semester. Tavish is majoring in Fine Arts and is currently displaying drawings and sculpture at Restless Roots Gallery on Miller St. in Plattsburgh.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Grant Van Patten, resident of Saratoga Springs and Silver Bay, an emergency department volunteer for the Saratoga Hospital Volunteer Guild which recently received the Auxiliary of the Year Award from the Healthcare Association of NYS.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Church Women United will meet March 6, 2009 at 10:30 am at the First United Methodist Church on Wicker Street in Ticonderoga to celebrate World Day of Prayer. The service this year was written by the women of Papua New Guinea and focuses on the Exodus story of women working together to save Moses from the river. Refreshments will follow the brief business meeting and the program.

Town Historian, Gerald Crammond <historian@townofhague.org>, found the following information from an article originally published in *The Warrensburg News*.

In 1889 a young teacher from Hague, Nellie Newton, killed a rattlesnake in the front yard of the school. The reptile had 10 rattles and was a "formidable menace".

An anonymous poem was written about her deed.

*There was a schoolmarm of Hague*

*Whose ideas were not at all vague*

*When she heard a snake rattle*

*She dispatched him in battle*

*That Courageous young schoolmarm of Hague"*

### MONROE AT KIWANIS

Frederick Monroe, Supervisor of the Town of Chestertown and Chairman of the Warren County Board of Supervisors, spoke at the Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club meeting on January 15, 2009. As the Executive Director of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, he discussed why his group feels the Adirondack Park Agency's recent adoption of new shoreline regulations constituted an excessive use of APA authority and explained the rationale for two lawsuits seeking to overturn the Agency's decision.

Mr. Monroe indicated that the Review Board's position is that the Park Agency lacked the statutory authority to enact new shoreline regulation and the new regulations would effectively repeal the protection given to owners of existing lakeshore structures. The Review Board hopes the court cases will force the Adirondack Park Agency to seek legislative authority before adopting new rules.

### LOGGING PROGRAM

The Warren County Historical Society, in conjunction with the Quadricentennial Celebration of Hudson, Champlain, and Fulton, is having a program entitled "Logging on the Hudson" with Dick Nason and Richard Merrill. The program will take place at 7 pm on March 18, 2009 at Little Tannery Pond, North Creek. For additional information call Marilyn Van Dyke, Executive Director at 743-0734.

### GLENS FALLS GALLERY

*bjsartworks* Gallery at 71 Lawrence Street, Suite 208 in Glens Falls at "The Shirt Factory" has exhibits by local artists. "Find Peace Through Art", works by Daniel Zollinger, has been extended through March 7, 2009. From March 15 - April 25, 2009 "The Co-op Artists of Beekman Street" will be showing with an artists reception on March 28, 2009 from 6 - 8 pm. For more information see <www.bisartworks.com>.

## Nature News by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

### The Cedar Swamp in Chilson

Sometimes, when deadlines come for this article's submission, I am not sure what I want to write about. When that is the case, I will often just take a walk out into the natural world to see what will inspire me. This month I had many ideas: beaver lodges out in the creek, the well-worn path of a fisher cat, empty bird nests...I had been taking walks out onto the frozen creek and cedar swamp behind the house here in Chilson ~ so much to see and investigate, I was sure to get plenty to work with. I packed my field bag with sketchpad and camera, and donned my snowshoes to keep me above the softening snow. Although the previous week had been frigid and the snow crust had been packed hard, today temps were almost 50 degrees and the deep snow was becoming slushy. I always take along my neighbor's dog, Wags (I'm not sure who enjoys the company more) and we usually hike a packed trail through the woods to the creek where we could cut across the frozen swamp to the beaver lodges.



*Wags – on walk about*

But today I decided to take a new approach and cut through the woods to the north, down into the cedar swamp and then make my way along the swamp edges south to the beaver lodges and then home. I had never been this way and immediately found it to be quite beautiful and inspiring. Wags struggled through the deep snow but wouldn't give up the adventure for anything.

The cedar swamp is dark and peaceful. Chickadees, nuthatches and woodpeckers were the only outward signs of life, but I found a "hole" in the snow that went deep into the wet bank below that was the obvious home to some larger animal evidenced by the amount of scat around the entrance. Maybe a muskrat? The lichens on the trees fascinated me, the colors and patterns of the different varieties were extraordinary and I took dozens of pictures with plans to paint them later. We came out of the cedar trees onto the creek's edges. Here, it is really a marsh-like pond where the beavers have created a network of channels that run through the "field" towards the dam and then becomes Penfield Pond to the north. I had the incredible sensation that the scene reminded me of the Arizona desert. The frozen, snowy "pond" was like the desert floor with mountains in the background; the dead or leafless alder, willow and viburnum shrubs looked like the ocotillo and cactus scattered throughout; and the grassy hummocks and cattails resembled the scrub-brush of desert bottomland. In this open area, I found several abandoned bird nests in the shrubbery and was able to get up close and photograph them, noticing in detail the materials that were used in their construction: grasses, slender twigs, cattail fluff, lichens, moss, pine needles, string, algae. One had thin white eggshells left behind and another had several opened basswood seeds left in the shallow hollow ~ maybe where a mouse had stored and eaten them?

At this point I had hooked up with my tracks from previous days and the beaver lodges were in sight. My tracks wove between the alder brush and grass clumps and I stayed on the trail even though I was now on familiar ground, albeit coming from the opposite direction, I headed towards the shore. And then, as I stood there in the middle of that beautiful landscape, like a trap door opening below me, the snow and ice gave way and I plunged into the creek! Up to my armpits, with my snowshoes weighing me down, field bag with camera under water ~ I was in the middle of nowhere with only my head above the snow! Strangely, I didn't panic at all, my heart didn't race and it seemed like slow motion when I very, very carefully stretched my arms across the snow in front of me, laid my chest upon it and slid/pulled myself out on my belly until I could bend my knees and bring my snowshoes up behind me out of the water, inching my way to solid ground. Luckily, the air temp was almost 50 degrees so I didn't get really cold during the half mile or so I had to travel until I got home. Luckily, I knew how to get myself out of the ice. Luckily, my field bag was water repellant and my camera survived. (OK, I admit that when I was finally out of the hole, but still lying in the snow, I checked my camera first and actually took a picture of the "scene" of the accident!) And as I came to the place where the creek had been frozen for weeks ~ where I usually enter the swamp ~ I found that the ice had melted and the creek was flowing and I never would have ventured out there if I had known that. I broke several rules of safety that day: never venture out onto the ice if you are unsure of where and how thick it is ~ especially when there has been a thaw, never go out onto the ice alone, and always tell someone where you are going. No one would have known even to look for me, let alone where.

I am so very grateful that I arrived home safe and sound ~ dripping wet and boots filled with water aside. And knowing that I had asked for inspiration and got it, I also know that lessons are well retained when personal experience is the teacher. All in all, I am thinking of yesterday as "Nancy's Excellent Adventure"!

### Weather Report by JoAnne DeFranco

#### Hague Weather Report- 1/12/09- 2/14/09

Weather for this period can be summed up in 2 words-cold and snowy. It has been a real old fashioned winter. January 14-18<sup>th</sup> we experienced extreme cold with low overnight temperatures well below zero. My thermometer showed an overnight low of -15 degrees on Jan 16. A lady in Ticonderoga told me her thermometer dipped to -20. The cold temperatures have been great for making ice on Lake George. There have been many fishermen out there so I would have to assume it is very thick. We had a few snow showers on Jan 18 and 19 accumulating 2 - 4". The largest snowfall came on Jan 28 with about 10-12". Temperatures have moderated the last few days of this period. Wednesday, February 11, the high was 48 degrees. It has been above freezing for several days allowing the ice to melt off roofs, sidewalks, and driveways. The trend should continue into the coming week. Our daylight is increasing. It is almost 5:30 pm before it is dark. The sun rises at 6:55 am. Spring is just around the corner but we have to go through March first. There are usually 2-3 good-sized storms in March.

### HAGUE CALENDAR

#### February 2009

- 20 Planning Board application deadline
- 24 11 am LGPC Public Hearing on Stream Corridors
- 24 noon Senior Citizens Club luncheon meeting
- 24 4 - 6 pm Church of the Cross Pancake Supper
- 24 7 pm TSD Board of Education Meeting
- 26 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 27 5 - 6:30 pm Roast Beef Dinner at Ti Masonic Lodge
- 28 All day Fish & Game Club Fishing Tournament

#### March 2009

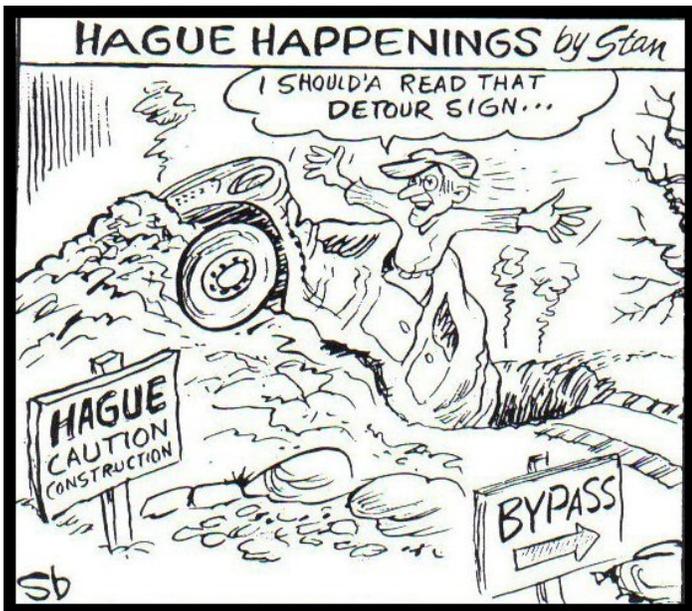
- 1 All day Fish & Game Club Fishing Tournament
- 5 7 pm Planning Board
- 6 10:30 am Church Women World Day of Prayer
- 10 6:30 pm Regular Town Board Meeting
- 13 Final DEADLINE for news for next issue
- 17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!
- 17 7 pm TSD Budget workshop and meeting
- 18 7 pm Elementary School Play
- 19 Next issue of *The Hague Chronicle* mailed

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

#### ONGOING EVENTS

- 1st Monday: Fire Department (7 pm)
- 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls (8:30 am)
- 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce (7 pm)
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters (10 am)
- 3rd Tuesday: Ticonderoga School Board (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7:30 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
- 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
- 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (11 am)
- 1st Friday: Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
- Every Tuesday: Rotary Club (7:30 am)
- Every Thursday: Kiwanis (12:15 pm)



#### TOWN PARKING STICKERS

Valid Beach Parking Stickers for Town residents are GREEN

The yellow or red stickers are no longer valid

GREEN stickers are available at the Community Center

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE  
 PO Box 748  
 Hague, New York 12836-0748

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