



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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MARCH 1992

HOSPITAL UPDATE

Charles Parlin, Jr.

Moses-Ludington Hospital has announced the amount of tax support it needs to continue in existence. At a meeting on March 4 the Hospital Board of Directors unanimously affirmed a recommendation of the Finance Committee that the amount of support to be requested of the voters in a referendum authorized by the State legislature be fixed at \$1.3 million per year for each of the four years, 1993-1996 and up to \$900,000 per year as needed for deficit financing for each of the six years 1997-2002.

Hague is one of seven towns which will participate in the referendum. The others are Ticonderoga, Putnam, Crown Point, Moriah, Schroon and North Hudson. On March 4 Supervisor Dan Belden of Hague and the supervisors of the other six towns met with hospital officials to get some background information and some explanation of the amounts requested by the hospital. In this meeting the hospital officials made the following points:

1) All hospital operations have been reviewed for possible savings. The operating deficit was reduced from approximately \$1.5 million in 1990 to approximately \$750,000 in 1991.

2) The only way for the hospital to continue operating much past the end of the year is for the voters to vote in favor of the tax subsidy. Other possibilities have been explored - Federal and State government grants, foundation grants, private fund raising - and while some help has been forthcoming, none of these is available as a solution.

3) The \$1.3 million for each of four years is required to bring the hospital current at the end of four years on its defaulted mortgage and its other outstanding debts; and to cover a projected expenditure of \$100,000 per year for physician recruitment and purchase of equipment intended to make possible greater usage of the hospital.

4) The amount of deficit financing required will depend upon the number of hospital patients. If the utilization of the hospital can be increased by 10% the operating deficit can be reduced to approximately \$500,000 per year. If the increase in utilization goes up 20% no operating deficits are anticipated.

5) If the referendum is defeated the hospital will be forced into bankruptcy and will have to close around the end of the year.

6) If the hospital is forced to close, some of the area doctors will leave and it will be very difficult to recruit new doctors to the area.

7) If the hospital is forced to close each of the seven towns will have to make other provisions for health

care at substantial cost to each town. The hospital is collecting information on these alternative costs and hopes to publicize it shortly.

The next steps in the referendum process are up to the seven towns. When will the petition process start? How will the seven towns agree to divide among themselves the total tax amount proposed in the referendum? When will the referendum be held? Will each of the seven towns have to approve by a majority vote for the referendum to pass? These are questions the political leaders must answer. For its part the hospital intends to make available for the public discussion all the facts and figures at its disposal. The hospital believes that when the voters carefully weigh the alternatives, they will vote their tax dollars to keep the hospital in service to the communities.

Ed: Please keep those letters of support coming to the Times of Ti. Also, Supervisor Belden would like to hear from as many of his constituents as possible as to how they feel about supporting the hospital. He will be more able to make better decisions based on how you feel.

MAGAZINE RECYCLING

HAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT

MAY 5 AND 6

The Town of Hague will be conducting a trial magazine recycling program on May 5 and 6. A trailer will be available at the Hague Community Center to collect certain paper items that are not part of Hague's regular recycling program. The collection will include:

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Magazines and advertising inserts
- Envelopes
- School and office paper (all colors)
- Non-metallic wrapping
- Brochures
- NCR paper (carbonless forms)
- Catalogues
- Sweepstakes forms
- Junk mail
- Text books (covers removed)
- Real-Estate

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Newsprint (Use regular Hague recycling program)
- Box Board
- Carbon paper
- Foam, padded, or bubble envelopes
- Photographs
- Corrugated Board (Use reg. recy. pro.)
- Telephone books
- Blue Print paper
- Plastics

(Continued on page 2 - Recycling)

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(Cont. from p1 Recycling)

If this trial program is successful, additional collection days will be scheduled. Please review the acceptable item list and avoid bringing unacceptable items. For further information contact John Breitenbach, Jr. at the Hague Community Center, 543-6161.

NOTICE TO HAGUE TAXPAYERS

The Concerned Taxpayers of the Town of Hague have formed a support group which will meet Friday, March 20, 1992 at the Hague Community Center at 7PM. The meeting is open to the public. If you would like more information, call 543-8859 or 585-6222.

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The regular meeting of the Hague Senior Citizens Club will be held on Tuesday, March 24 at 1:30PM at the Community Center. Mr. Bruce Craig, Hague, a member of the Moses Ludington Hospital Board, will be our guest speaker (your correspondent has had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Craig and KNOWS that everything he has to say is important and worthwhile. He will be using slides with his presentation.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting. Doris Bolton and Mildred Stockholm will be the hostesses for the occasion. . . ewa

WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON

The annual Senior Citizens Luncheon will be held on May 14 at the Sagamore Hotel in Bolton Landing. There will be a choice of two entrees: broiled chicken with rosemary butter or London broil. Both entrees are \$12.00. Each club must submit its reservation list to the luncheon chairman no later than April 28, and earlier if possible To register for this luncheon, phone the Community Center at 543-6161, give your name and choice of entree. Checks should be made payable to Ethel W. Andus, who will in turn write the single check necessary to cover the Hague Senior Citizens Club's luncheons. Your check may be mailed to Ethel at P.O. Box 2551, Silver Bay, NY 12874. The Seniors being honored this year are all from the town of Queensbury. Mr. Victor Grant, Chairman of the Warren County Board of Supervisors will be the guest speaker, and Mr. M. Brandt, Supervisor of the Town of Queensbury will be introducing the Seniors of the Year. Any Senior (50+), whether a seasonal or year-round resident, is eligible to attend this luncheon. So let's make Hague's representation a great one again this year - the Sagamore is a beautiful resort in a beautiful spot, and we are sure that you will find it interesting. . . ewa

CARNIVAL BREAKFASTS A GREAT SUCCESS

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department thanks all of the willing workers who arose early in the morning to set tables, prepare food and then cleaned up on the mornings of February 16 and 17. On Sunday morning many of the workers drove over icy roads to meet their commitments. Under the capable guidance of Joyce Monroe, Food Chairman, the breakfasts earned \$754.54 for the Fire Department.

Thanks go also to all of the wonderful people who turned out to eat their breakfasts at the Community Center those

two mornings. We are most grateful to the workers and to the customers - both are needed for the success of Fire Department's fund raising efforts.

The decorated sweatshirt that was raffled off was won by Barbara Belden. . . ewa

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS

The Hague Historical Society holds its first meeting of 1992 on Thursday, March 26 at The Hague Community Center. A social hour begins at 7:30PM and the meeting at 8PM.

The subject of the meeting is "A Memory To Share", with each member bringing one or more of these treasured memories to share.

The April meeting will tell "The Chatauqua Story" with Ethel Andrus as the narrator.

All are invited to these meetings so shake off the winter doldrums and feverishly come meet the other cabin victims.

ART SHOW

The public is invited to attend the March art show sponsored by the Ticonderoga Historical Society. Located in the Hancock House at Moses Circle, the hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 10AM to 4PM. It opens Wednesday March 11 and ends Saturday March 28. This month the two featured artists both choose to work in the centuries old but ever popular medium of oils. A majority of the paintings will be for sale.

Linda Breed-Jaenisch began studying with Atea Ring in 1976. After an absence of several years from her native North Country she resumed painting, and studying with Jane Garvey. Her subjects range from landscapes to wildlife. We are pleased to present her first exhibition.

Our second artist is Mary Barre. She also has been a student of Jane Garvey. Her achievements include first and second prizes at the Essex County Fair. She first photographs the mountain scenes and birds of choice before progressing to brush and canvas.

'TIPPING FOR CHARITY'

On Tuesday, March 17 between 11:30AM and 2:30PM a luncheon will be held at O'Doc's Restaurant on the corner of Montcalm Street and Champlain Ave. in Ticonderoga. Area business owners, managers and community leaders will act as "Celebrity Waiters and Waitresses" at the luncheon and actually serve lunch to their guests, trying to raise "tips" by using their ingenuity to dazzle and pamper them.

Lunch is \$6.00 per person, including the tax BUT NOT THE TIP. All tips and 2/3 of the lunch profit will directly benefit the hospital and the Downtown Business Assoc. which is raising funds to create fifteen Disney character costumes for promotional events. Tickets are on sale at Rathbun Jewelers and Arthur's Drug Store. A choice of seating will be available either from 11:30 to 1:00 or from 1:00 to 2:30. Never having worked for tips before, I do hope to do well. Will I see you there? For more information, contact Howard Rathbun, Bus. Assoc. president at 585-2244. . . djh

LOST - brown leather key case containing four keys. If found, please return to Community Center. The owner would be most grateful.

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. . . An Irish Blessing

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 2/27/92

The only variance request listed for the Feb. 27 ZBA was withdrawn. After reviewing the applications of various residents who wanted to fill the two ZBA board positions, the members unanimously agreed to recommend David Kesselbach and John Evans.

A summary of Stormwater Management Committee report was given.

Recommended the Revision Committee reconvene.

Announced a presentation by an insurance representative at the March 5 Planning Board meeting. Members of the ZBA board were invited.

The town board member representative at the board meeting asked for opinions and in-put as to the need for her presence at every meeting. She will abide by their decision.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 3/10/92

At the March 10 Town Board meeting several people took advantage of Supervisor Belden's offer of privilege of the floor and expressed their views on a number of matters and made several suggestions on some other items.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Two letters from John Silvestri, town attorney, were read re: open meetings and executive session and Board of Assessment Review.

The Fish and Game Club's request for the use of the park parking lot for the BASS Tournament was granted.

Tom Stull and Frances Clifton have resigned from the Board of Assessment Review.

A drainage problem at Imhoff's in Cape Cod will be addressed.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Sal Santaniello, Fire Department, spoke of a new piece of equipment bought and the manner of payment.

When there is a 100% completed sewer plan an informational meeting will be held and questions answered by those who know them.

Community Center Committee to reconvene next month.

Supervisor Belden has been in communication with Cable TV. Karen Laundree and Dick Frasier to discuss future plans.

Youth Committee still working on getting figures from Ti on basketball court.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Still investigating landfill logging.
2. Problems with two trucks in Highway Dept.
3. David Kesselbach & John Evans were appointed to fill the ZBA openings after board went into executive session to discuss personnel.
4. There are two openings on the Board of Assessment Review. Training is required. Inquire at the Community Center, if interested.
5. Senior Citizens meeting on March 24 will have Bruce Craig showing slides on the Moses Ludington Hospital Campus. All Hague residents are invited.
6. Val Lawrence has been added to the School Tax Investigation Committee.
7. Health coverage for Dick

Dunklee, Highway Supervisor to be investigated. 8. Landfill meetings have been held about reclamation. Extensions requested on money and time.

Three resolutions were passed: Res. #7 - asking for continuous CHIPS funding. (New budget cut us by 35%). Res. #8 - to accept Warren County plan for fire department response on hazardous waste material. Res. #9 - To amend budget.

The Home Bureau would like to purchase a BUNN coffeemaker, with the help of other organizations who might be using it. It would be a permanent fixture in the kitchen.

Ice and snow contract until 1993 with DPW, county wise.

Bernie Smith's cemetery contract tabled until April.

In answer to rabies question, the law states the owner is responsible for having his or her animal vaccinated.

An informational meeting will be held when Supervisor Belden learns more about hospital plans. . . gl

State of New York Supreme Court Warren County

The First National Bank of Glens Falls, Plaintiff against Hague Commons, Inc., Rosemarie Viscardi, Edward and Thomas O'Connor Inc., the people of the State of New York, Robert L. Katzman and Board of Directors of Locust Inn Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. as defendants.

By virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly made and entered in the above entitled action and bearing the date the 28th day of February 1992, the undersigned, the referee in said Judgment named will sell at public auction to the highest bidder according to such terms of sale as shall be provided immediately prior to such public auction, to be held at the main entrance to the Warren County Municipal Center, town of Queensbury, New York on the 14th day of April 1992 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day the premises directed by said Judgment to be sold and therein described and described in Schedule "A" annexed hereto. Dated March 10, 1992. /s/ Richard P. Tarantino, Esq. Referee.

EQUIVALENCY TEST TO BE GIVEN

The GED (High School Equivalency) will be given at Ticonderoga High School on April 1 and 2. Changes this year: Applications may be sent directly to High School Equivalency Testing Program, P.O. Box 7348, Albany, NY 12224-0348; or Guidance Office, Ticonderoga High School, Calkins Place, Ticonderoga, NY; 12883.

There is now a \$25 fee for the test. A check or money order for that amount must be sent with the application.

WIZARD OF OZ TO BE PRESENTED by the elementary school students at the Elementary School cafeteria on March 20. There is a cast of 100 children in this musical production directed by Jeanne Seel and Linda Azer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Moses-Ludington Hospital is facing the greatest challenge in its 84-year history. Its 160 jobs and wide range of health care services will cease if the tax-district referendum projected for the near future does not pass in the seven towns surrounding the hospital.

The facility will close and the economic impact will be severe. The majority of our doctors will not stay in the area since they rely on hospital service for a significant portion of their income.

Our volunteer ambulance service will never be able to cope with all the demands of transporting emergency, cardiac, and trauma cases to the Glens Falls, Burlington, Plattsburgh, or Middlebury Hospitals at least an hour away.

Elizabethtown is not even an option for many types of emergencies since there is no operating room there. We will have to support a paid ambulance service and the costs will be enormous. Added to this are the serious risks of traveling by ambulance during that first unstable hour given our geography and climate. Lives will be lost and even routine medical care will be compromised.

We encourage the people within the seven towns involved to write letters and voice your support for keeping Moses-Ludington Hospital operating. Hospital Campus leaders are doing their best to work out a cost feasible solution to this difficult and complex problem. Please give them a chance and your support. Now more than ever, we need your help.

Sincerely, /s/ Sue Rathbun & Peg Broadhead, Co-Chairs, Ad Hoc P.R. Committee

EDITORIAL

Every town has its problems and Hague is no exception. The main difference is in a small town like Hague we seem to be more aware of them. This year will be a very difficult one for the town of Hague. Our major concerns are the closing of the landfill, sewage disposal system, storm water runoff, Moses Ludington Hospital, or an alternative health care facility, and the always present school, and other taxes, which at the moment is the biggest issue of all.

During the past couple of years the assessors' office has been working on the revaluation process. The procedure which was mandated by the state was started under the elected assessors and continued under the present sole assessor. In February all taxpayers received letters which gave them their new assessments and their projected tax increase or decrease. A number of hearings have been held during the past year for the purpose of preparing the taxpayers for what still came as a shock when the figures were finally revealed. The assessor explained very thoroughly the entire process and answered questions for those who were interested enough to attend.

Of course none of us want to be over-assessed or overtaxed. But there is a procedure which one should follow; the first step of which is to make an appointment with the assessor to question him on how

he made his calculations. If one does not receive satisfaction from this visit, the next step is to file a grievance form and come before the Board of Assessment Review, which consists of five members of the community. If a reasonable decision is not made by this board, in the opinion of the griever, then the next step is to take it to court.

Many rumors have been spread, figures have been erroneously reported and we seem to have an undercurrent of hate in the town. This will serve no useful purpose. When you hear "unofficial" information, investigate. Go to the "horse's mouth" and make sure the information is correct. We need to get back together again. Take an active interest in your town. Go to the meetings. Listen. Make suggestions. Volunteer your services.

If it is any consolation - Ticonderoga went through a revaluation last year. They had the same problems and were just as upset about their new assessments as we are this year. However, things have quieted down and seem to be back to normal. So maybe for us - "this too shall pass."

SBA ELECTS BROWN, TETZ TO LEAD BOARD

The Silver Bay Assoc. has elected Joanne Brown, a retired school principal from Ithaca, NY as its president of the board of trustees for the next three years. Frank Tetz, a vice president at Towers Perrin in Philadelphia, will serve as vice-president. Both are long-time summer residents of Silver Bay. Six people were elected to serve as trustees: John Brubacher, Storrs, CT; Natalie Duffy, Demarest, NJ; Gary Edman, Dayton, OH; Robert Hoffman, Weston, CT; Ronald Reisner, Oceanport, NJ and Mark Pacala, Orlando, FL.

PANCAKE BREAKFASTS, MARCH 22 AND 29

Two Sundays in March, two opportunities to have a favorite breakfast at only \$3.00 a person. Sunday, March 22 (8AM-11AM) at the Masonic Temple on Montcalm St. and on Sunday, March 29 (8AM-11AM) the Pancake Breakfast will be held at the Hague Community Center. Both breakfasts are sponsored by the Ticonderoga Festival Guild as fund raisers for its 1992 season.

Five Tuesday evenings of entertainment are scheduled for July and August under the yellow and white tent on the Ti Village Green. These will include Blue Grass, pop and Broadway tunes, classical quartet presenting traditional, modern and contemporary composers, dance and musicians. The Ticonderoga Festival Guild has gained its reputation too for Arts Trek, the award winning series of free programs for children.

By dropping in at each of the pancake breakfasts, people not only can help make the pancakes disappear; they also help the Festival Guild perform the magic color-switch - changing red ink to black in the budget.
SUNDAY, MARCH 22 - MASONIC LODGE, TI
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 - HAGUE COMMUNITY CTR.
8AM-11AM - \$3.00 ... bdg

GLEANNING Program will be held on March 24 in the Community Center from 1-3PM. Bring documentation.

NATURE NEWS

Laura Meade

This is the season when owls are seen and heard because they are nesting and their chicks are born. During the years that I have kept bird records, nine species of owls have been reported in the Town of Hague. Here is a list of these, plus facts about each:

BARN: Face is heart-shaped; nests in barns, caves, hollow trees, belfries, towers, attics or abandoned mine shafts; makes a vicious hissing sound at night (similar to an angry bobcat); seen up Shamrock Hill and heard at New Hague Road.

BARRED: Large, round head, with dark brown eyes and mottled brown feathers; has a day or night rhythmic hoot often written as "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?"; seen at Sabbath Day Pt.

GREAT GRAY: Similar to Barred, but larger with yellow eyes and larger, strongly-lined facial disks; during winter of '78-'79 as many as 60 sightings were reported in New York State, although this owl is considered to be rare south of Canada; has a deep, booming "shoo-hoo-hoo"; seen in woods above Trout House Village.

GREAT HORNED: Large owl, with widely spaced ear tufts, yellow eyes and a white throat bib; makes a resonant series of 4 or 5 calls "hoo, hoo-oo, hoo, hoo"; preys on any medium-sized mammal or bird; heard at Jabe Pond and New Hague Rd.

LONG-EARED: A slender, crow-sized owl, with long ear tufts (set close together) and yellow eyes; makes a low moaning "hoo" or a catlike whine; often roosts in groups; heard at Watts Hill.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL: A medium-sized, hawklike day-flying owl with a long, rounded tail and barred underparts; does not sit erect as other owls but often perches at tip of tree and jerks tail like a Kestrel; flies low, rising abruptly to perch; has a chattering "kikikiki" or illy-illy-illy-illy" sound or a harsh scream; seen in woods above Trout House Village.

SAW-WHET: A very tame little owl (7"-8 1/2") without ear tufts; its song is a mellow whistled note repeated mechanically in endless succession, often 100 to 300 times per minute; seen at Trout House Village and L. Meade's property.

COMMON SCREECH: The only eastern owl (7"-10") with ear-tufts; has 2 color phases (red-brown and gray); makes a mournful whinny or tremulous wail, usually at dusk in spring; heard near old graphite mine above Lakeshore Terrace.

SNOWY: A large, white owl which nests on the Canadian tundra, but often winters in the Adirondacks; shows little fear of human activities and may be seen perched on roof of a building, on a post, on a highway signor near a ski tow; usually silent; seen near Route 9N on Tongue Mt.

If you see or hear an owl please notify me so I can provide a report to the Federated Bird Clubs of New York State.

1992 HAGUE WINTER CARNIVAL

This year's Winter Carnival seemed to go along well, with many successes, only a few glitches, and all events going off as usual, except the Cross Country Ski Race, which was cancelled due to lack of snow and dangerous trail conditions. The weather was not with us, but we managed to clean up after Saturday night's storm, and go on with Sunday's events.

Results of events of the Carnival were published in the Times of Ti, but we will include here a list of those from Hague who won and placed in some of the weekend's competitions: The May family made the winning snow sculpture, "The Mermaid"; Tony DeFranco finished first in the Junior Division of the 10-K Polar Bear Run, with a time of 37:40 minutes; Pat Rose finished second in the Women's Division with a time of 50:44 minutes; Fred LaPann finished third in the Master's Division, with a time of 42:18 minutes. Hague can boast of one "Polar Bear" this year: Jenni Owens jumped off the Trout House Village dock with eight other "Bears." The Olcott team placed second in the volleyball competition. In the Ice Auger and Chisel /Championships, Todd Porter placed first in both the Chisel and the Under 3" Auger divisions. Marty Spelman of Silver Bay and Syracuse placed first in the Over 3" Stock Auger division. Perry Girard, Jr. placed first in the Sub-Junior Open Auger competition; with Greg Fitzgerald second; David Fitzgerald placed second in the Junior Chisel division.

At this point, it looks as though the Carnival Committee will be making a \$1,000 donation to the Beste Scholarship Fund. Three students, Lisa Cobb, Rachel Martino and Kelly Yaw were presented with a total of \$750 in scholarship awards at the Carnival Buffet. At the Ticonderoga High School graduation in June, another student from Hague will receive the \$100 Outstanding Student Award from Winter Carnival Funds. Also, a private donation of \$50 was received for the Beste Fund during the Carnival, and \$97.00 was collected as the "Beste Box" was passed around from table to table during the Awards Ceremony. So, the Beste Fund will be near the \$7,000 mark by Spring. We thank everyone for lending their support for this very worthwhile cause.

In addition, the Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who helped in some way over the weekend. Official thank yous are in the works, but another mention here would certainly seem appropriate. We could never have done it without you! On to '93. . . Kathy Santaniello

The first edition of the quarterly publication "The Lake George Nautical Newsletter" will delve into the history of the lake, its vessels and shipwrecks. The inaugural issue, set for mid-March will be devoted entirely to nautical news from the L.G. region. The newsletter will be published in March, June, Sept. and Dec. Annual subscription donation - \$18.00, made payable to the Lake George Historical Association-Bateaux Below Fund. Mail check with name and address to Bateaux Below, P.O. Box 2134, Wilton, NY 12866. First edition will feature a column on shipwrecks and on the creation of shipwreck preserves.

MAPLE SYRUP

The following article was written by Mrs. Vila Fitzgerald, Hague's former historian, based on an interview with Rollin DeLarm in 1966. Mr. DeLarm died in 1991.

I can remember back sixty years ago when my father first made maple syrup. Holes were bored into the trees and wooden spouts driven in. Buckets were then placed to catch the sap as it ran from the trees. It was then gathered in pails and carried to a large iron kettle where it was boiled down to syrup. A few years later he made an arch and used a flat pan six inches deep, three and a half feet wide and seven feet long. This method of boiling made very dark syrup.

Some time later he built a good sugar house and installed an evaporator. Then he tapped many more trees. To gather the sap he now used horses and a four barrel tank fastened to a wood shod sled. This method of boiling produced much lighter syrup. Prices were very poor in those days and my father got only one dollar per gallon for syrup and only six or eight cents a pound for maple sugar. That was around 1915. It takes one gallon of syrup to make eight pounds of sugar and about thirty-two gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup.

The last of February marked the time to bring in the sap buckets from the sugar house and wash them. Then the storage tanks and evaporator had to be cleaned. By that time we were using metal sap spouts and they too had to be washed. By then it was time to tap trees and start to make sugar and syrup. Weather plays a great part in the maple business. Freezing nights and warm days are needed. Sap will run whether there is snow on the ground or not.

I started making syrup about forty-five years ago. I bought one of the new big evaporators from the G.H. Grimm Company. I purchased 1800 galvanized 16-qt. buckets with covers. We also had new improved spouts. The quicker the sap can be boiled into the syrup, the lighter will the product be.

The sugar season lasts about five weeks. When the weather get quite warm the latter part of April the syrup will get darker. Then the sap will stop running. During a good run we were very busy gathering the sap and keeping the evaporator at top speed. This requires a lot of wood. I used from 25 to 30 cords of four foot wood every year. This had to be cut and ready for the coming year.

When the syrup tested the right thickness it was drawn from the evaporator and run through felt strainers and poured into a sixty gallon settling tank. This removes the fine sand which comes from the trees and is called sugar sand. The next process is the canning of the syrup and making sugar. Maple syrup has to weigh eleven pounds per gallon. Our sugar was mostly made into hard cakes. This requires the syrup to be boiled down quite a bit more in a large pan in the house. A sugar thermometer is put into the pan and when the right degree is reached, the pan is removed from the stove and stirred with a large wooden ladle until it is nearly cold. Then the sugar is put into molds to harden. Our molds held fifty one-half pound cakes and fifty one-pound cakes. For many years we made about 2500 pounds in these small molds and shipped them away to a merchant down in Catskill. We received 25 cents a pound for this sugar.

Our syrup was sold locally in gallon cans as we had orders. Most of it was sold in 60 gallon drums to wholesalers. I have made as much as 650 gallons in a season.

Syrup has sold as low as .65 per gallon in barrels, and as high as \$2.50 per gallon. This depended on grade and color. The last sugar we sold we got one dollar a pound, and syrup was five to six dollars a gallon.

In 1920 there were twenty-five families making syrup in this town. At this time of the year people did not have other work to do. Besides having what syrup they wanted for their families they made quite a bit of extra money.

At this time there are but two families making maple syrup in Hague (1966). Smiths in New Hague and Parlins at Silver Bay.

The big syrup makers no longer gather the sap by horses and tractor but use plastic pipe from the trees to the storage tanks. Also, plastic buckets replace the old metal ones. Fancy candy and maple creams are now a big part of the maple sugar industry.

One enjoyable art of the sugaring season long ago was the sugar parties. Big pans of snow were gathered and hot syrup of sugar consistency were poured over the snow in small spoonfuls and eaten with a fork. This was called jack wax, and everyone called it delightful to eat.

Names of the families who were making syrup around 1920:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Eugene Doolittle | Marshall Kelly |
| Wilford Ross | Will DeLarm |
| Leslie Hayes | John McKee |
| Frank May | Dyer Ackerman |
| Fred Smith | Wardner Spaulding |
| Morris Bevins | Harry Rand |
| Bant Landers | Bruce Carney |
| Harold Carpenter | Peter Barnett |
| Burt West | LeRoy Balcom |
| Nate Yaw | Jim Galusha |
| J. J. Wilson | Eddie Ackerman |
| Charlie Parlin | Capt. Watts |
| Amos Ross | Rollin DeLarm |
| Will Carpenter | Alfred Lamb |

... Submitted by Clifton West, Hague Historian

HAGUE MUSEUM NOTES

Clifton West, Town Historian

With help from a friend in Johnsbury and another in Carroll County, IL, I've been able to build the Holman and Stark genealogies back into the 1600's.

Laura (Waters) Bolton of Corinth found a genealogy of Waters and Putnams which I received from present Waters family. This has been traced back five generations. All such material helps to build up Hague's information on Hague's early families.

Clifford Decker gave us a solid iron flat iron such as were used on the farm.

Madeline Hutchinson contributed several postcards and two really fancy buttonhooks. Can anyone find a pair of buttoned shoes?

I need some hatpins just to show how the women kept their hats on when the wind blew.

Our calendar from Steitz' shows Norman Rockwell prints as were used on Saturday Evening Post long time ago.

A few former students were in during the vacation.

LANDFILL HOURS CHANGE

Beginning April 1, The Hague Landfill will be open seven days a week from 12noon to 5PM.

Jackie Fort, Hague postmaster, has had more than her share of bad luck. She recently slipped on the ice and severely fractured her right wrist. She will undergo surgery on March 16. We wish her a speedy recovery.

*We cannot direct the wind
But we can adjust our sails*

SOUNDINGS

ENGAGED - Lynn Coffin, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Coffin, Hague, to Michael McClure, Brant Lake, son of Mr. & Mrs. Dennis McClure of Hyde Park. Lynn is assistant manager of Terrio's Restaurant, Schroon Lake and assistant gymnastics coach for Ticonderoga High School. Michael is Assistant District Attorney for Warren County.

DIED - Elsie M. Hayford, 73, Ticonderoga and former resident of Hague on March 5 at Montcalm Manor. Survivors include four daughters, all former Hague residents - Wilma Ryan, Bonnie Hill, Verna Bevins and Annabelle Hills; one brother; 18 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren.

DIED - George Scott, 72, on March 7 in Highland Park, Lake Wales, FL. He was a summer resident of Silver Bay for many years and served on SBA's Board of Directors. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, two sons, two daughters and six grandchildren. A memorial service is planned to take place during the summer at Silver Bay Assoc.

DIED - Carl Frasier, 73, Hollow Road, Hague, on March 11 at Moses Ludington Hospital. He was formerly a foreman with the State Highway Dept. and a member of the Hague Fish & Game Club. He is survived by a son, Clinton, two daughters, Patricia Forgette and Gloria Jean Peeters, both of Hague, several grandchildren and two brothers, Clifford and Mitchell, both of Hague.

Belated birthday greetings to Mig Broderick, our esteemed editor for many years, now living in East Northport NY., on the occasion of her 80th, on February 21. Her son Larry from Germany came home to help celebrate.

Also a belated birthday greeting to Earl Phillips, Forest Bay, who celebrated his 95th on March 13.

TICONDEROGA MIDDLE SCHOOL SECOND QUARTER ACHIEVEMENT ROLL

Grade 6: Melissa Brunet, Lindsay Frasier, Jay Wells.

Grade 7: Jessica Frasier, Tracy Schlogl, Brittany Stull.

Grade 8: Allison Johnson, Monica Johnson Perry Girard, 7th grade student earned a spot on the improvement roll during the second quarter.

CONGRATULATIONS! Keep up the good work.

FHA/HERO - BUSY BUSY BUSY!

FHA/HERO - a Home Economics leadership club in the high school, has been working on a year-long community service project with the Moses Ludington Nursing Home.

The program - Adopt a Grandparent - was organized by FHA/HERO members in September and will continue through June. Every month the club members plan a social event for nursing home residents. Most FHA/HERO members take time out of school to visit their grandparents. On February 26th Darcy Tubbs, Cori Ezzo and Kari Trudeau presented this project to FHA/HERO District leaders and SED leaders in the form of a display and five to ten minute oral presentation.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETING

Rudolph Meola, Hague Democratic Party chairman, has called a meeting of the Democratic Party on March 31 at 7:30PM at the Community Center. If you are a Democrat (or a potential one) please attend this meeting.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ELECTION

will be held at the Community Center on April 7 from 12 noon to 9PM

Instructions on the use of the voting machine will be held on April 2, 3 and 6 from 2 to 3PM in the Community Building.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES MARK ADIRONDACK PARK CENTENNIAL

May 20, 1992 will mark the hundredth anniversary of the legislation which created the Adirondack Park. Local students have participated in activities related to the centennial. The work was done during the previous school year (spring of '91) Ms. Vicker's Middle School English students entered an essay contest. A number of their pieces, showing a sophisticated understanding of the many issues surrounding the park, have been published by the *Times of T* and also in other papers.

Fourth and fifth grade students entered a poster contest last spring and their entries will be well represented in a travelling exhibit, sponsored by the Adirondack Park Centennial Committee, which will appear a number of places in the state. Four students from Hague - Katie Rutkowski, Brandy Frasier, Eve Trombley and Tavish Costello - - were among 13 local students who had works accepted as part of the exhibit. Congratulations to these artists! Their art instructor, Marylou Doulin, is also a resident of Hague.

The exhibit can be seen:

March 5-19, 1992 - Legislative Office Bldg., Albany

March 21-April 18 - Visitor's Interpretive Center, Newcomb

April 21 - May 15 - Adirondack Mountain Club Headquarters, Lake George Rt. 9N, off Exit 21

May 18-June 21 - Raquette Lake School, Raquette Lake

July 1-15-Adirondack Park Agency, Ray Brook, NY

ALSO, Ticonderoga Elementary-Middle School Music Teacher, Lisa Mazotte King was commissioned by the Ticonderoga Festival Guild to write a musical composition to go with the poem, *Something That Stays* by Mary Ann Lynch as a tribute to the Park Centennial. The work has been finished. A dance group is working on choreography for the music. The combined music/dance/ reading will premier June 28, 1992 at the Silver Bay Association Auditorium. Watch for Festival Guild announcements about tickets and exact performance time. . . Mary Johnson, PTO President

A SURE SIGN OF SPRING - Ray Monroe spotted two robins in Hague on February 29.

Avert misunderstanding by calm, poise and balance.

March

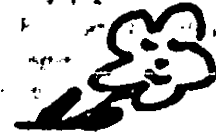
- 17 Home Bureau - 10AM, Community Center
- 18 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 18 Board of Education meeting - Ti Hi Cafeteria
- 18 Planetarium show - 7:30PM, THS Planetarium
- 20 Ti Elementary School Play - The Wizard of Oz - Elementary/Middle School Cafeteria
- 20 Concerned Citizens meeting - Comm Ctr-7PM
- 22 Pancake Breakfast - Masonic Temple, 8-11AM (p4)
- 24 Senior Citizens meeting - Comm. Ctr - 1:30PM (p2)
- 25 H. S. POPS concert - 7:30PM, THS Auditorium
- 26 Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:30PM; Comm. Ctr.
- 29 Pancake Breakfast - Comm. Ctr, 8-11AM (p4)
- 31 Democratic party meeting - 7:30PM Comm. Ctr (p7)

APRIL

- 1 & 2 - GED test - Ti H.S. (p3)
- 1 Home Bureau County Luncheon, 10AM, Comm. Ctr
- 1 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 1 Chamber of Commerce - 7:30PM, Comm. Ctr.
- 2 Planning Board - 7:30PM, Comm. Ctr
- 6 Fire Department meeting - 7:30PM
- 7 Home Bureau - 10AM, Community Center
- 7 Democratic Primaries - 12-9PM (p7)
- 14 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM, Comm. Ctr.
- 15 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

ON TO SPRING!



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