

THE SINKING OF THE STAR BOATS

Commodore Henry M. Rowan

Lake George boaters that happened to pass the Lake George Yacht Club on August 28, were surprised to see several of the Star sailboats apparently sinking at the dock. Could this be where old, slow sailboats go to die, or was there some reasonable explanation behind this apparent madness?

The Star Class sailboat is one of the most competitively sailed boats built. It is sailed in nearly every industrial country in the world and is raced as one of the Olympic classes for international competition. World championship races and continental championship races are held annually, the North Americans being sailed in varying spots such as San Francisco, Toronto, Mobile, Chicago and Boston so as to permit sailors from all parts of North America to compete from time to time. Often boats are trailed across the country just for the pleasure of entering this tough competition.

World championships have been held in the United States, Venezuela, Nassau, Spain and, for 1977, Germany. Many of the top Star sailors have become Olympic gold medalists and America's cup defenders. It is an exciting and exacting sport.

Lake George boasts of two Star fleets--one at the Lake George Club just north of Diamond Point; the other at the Northern Lake George Yacht Club on Friends Point in Hague. At both clubs, tough competitive races are held during the summer on Saturdays and Sundays. Most of the residents watch them out there trying to make the most speed out of the fickle winds that Lake George is known for.

But why the sinkings? Since Star boats do carry an 820 lb. cast iron keel they are so stable that they just cannot be tipped over under any circumstances. They might be considered one of the safest sailboats available. They are fast in light winds, even faster and more responsive in winds up to 25 miles per hour and can ride out storms with gusts of 40 or even 50 miles an hour.

Occasionally though in stormy seas, primarily in the ocean or open water, waves have washed into the narrow cockpit of the Star to where they have been known to swamp. To maintain their excellent safety record, the class has determined that the boats must be equipped with flotation tanks or air bags to where they will support the heavy keel and float upright even when filled with water. To make sure they are safe and will float, the class has ordered that every Star boat that is to be raced in sanctioned Star competition must be tested to demonstrate that it will in fact float with the decks awash.

So at the Northern Club these tests were conducted on the afternoon of August 28. With the help of Bob Hoyt and the men from the Hague Fire Department, the boats were pumped full of water, left awash for ten minutes and then pumped dry. Only two of the twelve boats tested went down. These were raised again and will have flotation added or tanks sealed and will be retested.

It is nice to know that the Star Class organization does pay attention to the safety of these sailing boats which have become so popular in American and world pleasure sailing and competition.

PLEASE CORRECT typing error in title of Howard Engler article, p. 1 of Sept. issue, for posterity. It should read "Those Guns of Fun".

CANDIDATES FOR NOVEMBER ELECTION

FOR SUPERVISOR:

RICHARD E. BOLTON, REP.

Dick's background was presented in full last month. He has been active in both town & county government since college and a Lake George Park Commissioner for 10 yrs. His position as Foreman of Outdoor Misc. with Int. Paper Co leaves him free to attend meetings during the day & he plans to hold evening office hours. He will keep people well informed thru all media. UNOPPOSED.

FOR HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDANT:

DANIEL D. BELDEN, REP.

"Dan has held this office for the past 6 years, 2½ yrs. of which he served as President of the Warren County Highway Superintendants Asc'n. He brought the Donovan Program into effect for the town. The state now pays 40% of the cost of resurfacing and construction. For example Mountain View Road, Summit Drive and Sabbath Day Point Rd. are now being surfaced and resurfaced under this program. In the past six years he has tried to resurface at least one mile of town road per year to bring the roads up to the standards that the townspeople want. If reelected he will continue to do his best for the people of the town and to keep good programs like the Donovan Plan in effect." UNOPPOSED.

FOR TOWN JUSTICE:

HARVEY E. YAW, REP.

"Harvey bases his qualifications on good common sense, good judgment, being impartial at all times, ready to hold court day or night, and always ready to serve the people to the best of his ability. He takes courses in Criminal Law every year--more than he needs to retain his Certificate of Justice." UNOPPOSED.

JOHN T. HENRY, REP. (To fill vacancy) "Jack first came to Hague with his family in 1914 at the age of nine months. Since 1947 he lived here for three periods, most recently after retiring from the Central

Intelligence Agency in 1974. He is interested in this area because of the people, the beauty of Lake George and the quality of the life. The growth of Hague has been wise but restrained. This type of growth has kept the area a pleasant place to live. In running for office he hopes to serve the town so that it will become an even more attractive community where one can live the year round, spend the summer or retire. He studied Geology and Business Adm. at Un. of Virginia and while in government took courses at American Un. in Wash. D.C." UNOPPOSED.

FOR TOWN CLERK:

MARY ALICE S. HALL, REP

"Mary has been Town Clerk for the past four years. She has served the town as Treasurer of the Board of Education for two years and is in her 37th year as mail carrier. She is proud to be of service to the people."

FRANCIS L. WATERS, DEM.

"I was born in the town of Hague where I resided 37 of my 42 years. Was graduated from Hague Central School, June of 1952 with a N.Y. State Regents diploma.

Selected as Hague's representative to 'Boy's State' at Colgate College sponsored by the American Legion.

Attended N.Y. State Un. at Farmingdale, L.I. Was graduated in '55 with associate degree in Applied Science. Earned a certificate in Analytical Trouble-Shooting by Tregoe and Kempner.

Employed presently by the Hague School System and drive school bus.

I with my family attend the Hague Wesleyan Church regularly and am an Assistant Sunday School Teacher.

I believe I have the necessary qualifications to serve the community as Town Clerk and am looking forward to doing a good job for all of you. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given me." Fran Waters

FOR ASSESSOR:

HARRY G. WHITE, REP. (4 Year Term)
"Harry is a retired businessman who has been a permanent resident for many years. He is familiar with property values in the area and has served as assessor for 2 years."

UNOPOSED

FOR ASSESSOR:

CLIFTON FRASIER, REP. (2 Year Term)
"Clifton understands the need for taxes, also the burden of them. He is familiar with most of the land in the Hague area, also the tax maps. He is retired from the electrical business and if he is elected he will do his best to be fair."

NORMAN E. STRUM, DEM. (2 Year Term)
"I served on the Town Board for one year and have been a member of the Town Planning Board since Feb. 1973. As tax assesor, I would hope to bring the tax assessments into line with the real value of property under APA. The Glemshaw reappraisal was done before APA and some land owners may be paying more tax than they should because they are uable to use the land as they would have before APA."

FOR COUNCILMAN:

AARON M. MIDDLETON, REP.
"Aaron has served as Town Clerk for fourteen years and is presently on the Town Board as Councilman. He served overseas in World War II with the 6th Armored Division."

MICHAEL G. FITZGERALD, DEM.
"Mike, a lifelong resident of Hague, is self-employed in the masonry business. He attended North-eastern University and Adirondack Community College after graduating from Hague Central School. He served in the Signal Corps of the U.S. Army and spent 13 months in Vietnam. He is a member of Local 64, Bricklayers Union of Glens Falls, American Legion Post in Hague, Hague Chamber of Commerce and Hague Fish and Game Club."

FOR COUNCILMAN:

RICHARD A. FRASIER, REP. (To fill vacancy) "Dick is a local businessman who has had experience in the

purchase, operation and maintenance of various types of equipment. He is an active member of the Hague Volunteer Fire Dept. He feels he can be of service to the town as a councilman.

IRVING BERNSTEIN, DEM. (To fill vacancy) "Most people in town know me as Sonny. I was in the 10th Armored Division in the second World War. I have had my home in Hague for 3 years and have been coming to Hague for many years. I worked in New York City as a manager in a large company They retired me after 30 years. I know that I am honest and trust-worthy and can do a good job as councilman. I would appreciate all the support I can get."

HAGUE UNITES for KEITH DELARM DAY

The Steering Committee for the Town Gala proclaims November 20th Keith DeLarm Day!

The occasion will be an OPEN HOUSE at BURGEY'S RESTAURANT, from 2 to 7PM, to honor Keith for his 19 years of service to the community. Light refreshments will be served.

Everyone in town is invited and ideas for adding to the festivities would be most welcome.

It is hoped that all residents, seasonal and year-round, will share in this town-wide project by attending the party and contributing time, food and/or money for a gift.

Suggestion: If you are unable to attend, send a letter of appreciation for Keith to Dorothy Henry, Chairman of Keith DeLarm Day, Hague, N.Y. 12836. The letters will be presented with a commemorative book.

Seasonal residents who plan to attend please RSVP to Mrs. Henry also.

Year round residents will be contacted by District Captains and their deputies.

District Captains and Committee Chairmen will be announced soon.

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IN MEMORY OF EMIL

In January of 1972 Emil Seerup said "Lack of information and misinformation sow the seeds of suspicion and mistrust". He undertook, through The Hague Chronicle, "a sincere effort to bring the local news home to all residents...without prejudice or bias" and he continued until the day before his demise in October 1976.

Claralee Smith reports that the high school Seniors are joining Emil (and Virginia) in this effort. They are going to publish a school newspaper. Emil would be pleased and proud and so are all of us.

TOWN BOARD

At Aug 9th meeting, Robinhood Rd. was accepted into the town highway system.

SEPT. 13 MEETING:

A review session with the Planning Board on the proposed Town Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the latest edition are available from the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board, Amherst St. Lake George, N.Y. 12845 (Phone 668-5773). APA maps and Amended Map of Hague Land Use Plan are on display at the Town Hall.

It was agreed to join the Warren County Identification and Intelligence System to exchange information with their Criminal Background Information service.

Money received from New York St. Health Insurance Agency Surplus, (\$2139. to be used without interest)

Bids for excess town property open through Oct. 10.

New custodian of the voting machine--Democrat representative--appointed: Irving Fitzgerald.

Sherry Denno granted one year leave of absence.

Mrs. Betty Braisted appointed Secretary to the Supervisor to replace Mrs. Denno, (at Special Meeting on Sept. 15)...

Keith DeLarm, Supervisor
(Continued in November issue)

PLANNING BOARD-ZONING COMMISSION LISTEN AND ACT

The Planning Board is working harder than ever on the Proposed Hague Land Use Plan. After each Public Hearing (for these they put on their Zoning Commission hats) they go back to the drawing board and try to adjust the plan to suggestions and objections raised by their public, continue to answer questions and try to help people who are concerned about their property rights--without infringing on the rights of others.

FROM THEIR MINUTES:

AMENDMENTS

TO THE PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE
(Copies were given to the participants at the Sept. 12 Hearing.)

"As a result of the comments made at the Aug. 25th Zoning Commission Hearing the following changes were made to the proposed Zoning Ordinance:

1. As a response to public objection to Section 9,040 of Article 9 --Destruction of Non-Conforming Use (p.55 of the ordinance) this section was removed in its entirety...
2. As a result of the confusion arising over the use of the term "residential" in conjunction with Hamlet areas (p. 25, Article 4 of Ordinance) this term was removed...
3. Consideration is being given to Mr. & Mrs. Martucci's request to be included in the hamlet area. Research is being done to determine viable alternatives to accomodate their needs.
4. Investigation is being done to see if Hamlet areas could sustain a higher density of development than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre as suggested at the hearing.
5. Investigation is being done to determine if the Silver Bay area south of the fork in the road and west of 9N could be included in the 3.2 acre density rather than in the 8.5 acre area it is in now."

Edward Crabbs
Planning Board Chairman

SIDELIGHTS FROM PUBLIC HEARING
September 12

Mr. Viscardi initiated a discussion of the term "Flood Plain". It was suggested that the mid-town Hamlet area would not be a flood plain if the mouth of the brook were kept free and the bridge were higher.

Mr. Waters and Mr. Grimes described various causes of our major floods--one when a sawmill washed down the street, two when dams were washed out, one when a garage fell in the brook and chronic obstruction from trees, rocks and silt.

It was agreed that the whole brook need to be cleaned periodically but this is not the responsibility of the Planning Board and so long as the condition exists their is need to prohibit unrestricted building along the brook and follow flood hazard regulations to qualify for Federal Flood Insurance.

"Flood Plain" is a Fed. Government term assigned to areas within a 100 year high water level.

Mr. Patchett was unable to attend because the Hearing conflicted with the regular School Board Meeting. Mrs. Patchett read his letter, a well stated expression of the conflict between fears of "beaucroatic red tape" and the desire to keep the town "substantially unchanged".

He expressed appreciation for the "exhausting work the Board has done" and regretted taking "the stand of a critic" but, based on his experience in other communities, after studying the ordinance he foresaw several problems.

The letter was accepted by the Board in the same spirit and his suggestions are being given serious consideration (see Paragraphs 3, 6 & 7 Sept. 20 Pl.3rd Meeting)

Mr. Zeese asked why the Adirondack Park Agency wants Hague to have an approved plan...this led to speculation about APA motivation in supporting local land use plans.

It was suggested that they could

point to local ordinances as evidence of grass roots support for continuing the agency...that they had to incorporate this provision to get their original legislation passed...that it would lessen their workload.

Mr. McPherson asked how many communities in the Adirondacks have adopted plans of this type.

Answer: None yet. Many have adopted plans which are unapproved by APA and several have plans approved by APA with conditions that are as yet unadopted by towns.

Several questions were asked re what action the Board will take on suggestions made at the Hearing and requests that a vote be taken to show consensus on Mr. Patchett's letter.

Answer: "No vote can be taken at the Hearing as referendum and voting are not a part of the legal hearing process." The letter and all suggestions are discussed by the Planning Board, possible actions explored and appropriate changes made in the ordinance.

Mr. Viscardi urged that Section 2.011 page 3--"...Nothing in this ordinance shall be deemed to supercede, alter or impair the jurisdiction of the Adirondack Park Agency..." should read "...alter, impair or enlarge the jurisdiction of APA..." if the intent of the proposed ordinance is not to be stricter than APA regulations.

People were reminded that Planning Board and Town Board meetings are also open to the public throughout this process.

NEXT PUBLIC HEARING: OCT. 3, 7:45 PM at the Town Hall on "Subdivision Regulations".

After that Hearing it is expected the proposed plan will go to the Town Board who will study it and hold one more Public Hearing before sending it on its way to County Planning Board who send it back to our Town Board who send it on to APA who send it back to Town Board approved or approved with conditions etc.

PLANNING BOARD MET ON SEPT. 20:

"..The first item to be addressed was the possibility of changing certain areas of Forest Bay and Friend's Point from Town Residential to Resource Conservation. It was decided to contact the associations to find their positions on the change (proposed by Mr. Phillips)

The next issue was that of a minimum lot size for the hamlet area. A motion was made by F. LaPann and seconded by J. Broderick to consult the State Health Dept. and find out what their minimum lot size for places which have on site sewer and water and for lots which have off-site water and to adopt whatever the Health Dept. recommends. Each area will be under Planning Board Site Plan Review. Motion carried.

Discussion of the request to change the area north of the hamlet to Town Residential density from Open Countryside II. Motion was made by F LaPann and seconded by A Zeese to change the area to TR-II and remove mobile home courts as permitted use in the TR-II area. Motion carried.

Discussion followed of Mr. Ward's question about erecting a warehouse in the OC-I area. Conclusion was that he could build such a structure there. Recommendation to increase the maximum amount of lot coverage from 15% to 20% in the OC-I density.

Discussion of Mr. Patchett's request for a one year moratorium. The Board felt that this would be

more detrimental than beneficial.

The last item to be discussed was the flood plain section of the proposed Ordinance. Due to the objections voiced at the hearings to the strictness of the flood plain regulations, the Board decided to change the regulations to comply with the Federal regulations and not be more restrictive than the federal government recommends."

Ed Crabbs, Planning Board Chm.
FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On October 19th at 7:45PM in the Hague Baptist Church Annex, Mrs. James Fitzgerald (Viola) will tell us about Duties Of Town Historian and History of Local Cemeteries including Wardsville. We hope many people will come to these meetings, whether members or not, everyone is invited. The Society hopes to lure them into active membership.

We meet monthly on the third Wednesday and occasionally undertake extra activities such as the Saratoga Battlefield Trip on Sept. 24 from which we returned "with a feel of the troop movements and strategy of the battles"; and the Graphite Walking Tour on Oct. 9th starting at 2PM from Broderick's house, (rain date--Mon. 10AM)

FIREMEN'S ROAST BEEF SUPPER Oct 8
at the Hague Central School.

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