



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 23 No. 9

HAGUE, NY 12836

SEPTEMBER 1994

NEW TRANSFER STATION HOURS

On Sep 11 to October 31, hours for the transfer station will be from 12 noon to 5PM 6 days a week. Closed WEDNESDAYS.

Next dates for collection of magazines etc. will be October 12-16 at the Transfer Station.

Non returnable cans may now be put in bin with plastics, according to Mr. Snow at the Transfer Station. Remember that cardboard cartons should be separated and broken down and put in special container for cardboard.

BABY MINK IS NO PUSSY CAT!

They are very cute but if you get too close or try to touch one they will bite. I guess the word has gone out thru the mink community that "man is no friend of mink". VS

ED: All's well that ends well. The mink that bit my friend last week was caught and tested non-rabid, even though it acted very suspicious.

HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

We do not have any of the customary reports this month, because of the Labor Day holiday, but we can bring our readers a piece of very good news: The Silver Bay Association's production of BRIGADOON was most successful, and the proud EMPS were able to give \$2277.00 to the Fire Department. Thank you, SBA and thank you EMPS, each and every one!

And more good news: once again the Silver Bay Association will host the Columbus Day Weekend dinner to benefit the Fire Department. It will be a buffet (remember how pleased we all were last year with this arrangement?) and serving will start at 5PM on Sat, Oct 8. A real bargain for dinner at \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

Remember our fire company is staffed ENTIRELY by volunteers; support them in every way you can! ... ewa

THE REALLY "GOOD MAN"

If you are really "a good man", if you can really do good work in any line, you do not need capital. In every trade newspaper you will find advertisements of this character: "The services of a good man more important than capital."

A cry goes up from every quarter for really good men, men who can accomplish results, men who will not cause more trouble around a shop than their services are worth. Of course you say you are "a good man," but if you can prove it you are all right. There is no end to the possibilities of a young man who has good working habits. . . Reprinted from The Progressist, Ticonderoga, Oct 12, 1905.

HAGUE FALL CLEANUP DAYS

On October 11 and 12 the town of Hague's highway crew will be out collecting the following items: old furniture, tires, bedsprings, mattresses, hot water tanks, stoves, washing machines and other appliances. Refrigerators and freezers will be accepted ONLY if the doors have been removed.

The following items are among those which will NOT be accepted: household garbage, construction debris, brush, trees, yard clippings and any recyclable items.

Items must be taken to the end of your driveway for pick-up. If you have items to pick up or any questions about this project, please call the Highway Garage at 543-6500 or the Town Hall at 543-6161. This will help the highway department determine where a pickup is needed.

ASSEMBLYMAN JAMES P. KING TO BE IN HAGUE

Assemblyman King will be holding an "Office on the Move" in Hague on Tuesday, Sep 20, at the Community Center from 10-11AM.

"I realize that it is often difficult for constituents to travel to my district offices, so I am making every effort to make myself available to meet with you. I hope that you will take this opportunity to stop by to share your concerns, or just say hello!

"I welcome the chance to serve you in any way I can, be it through the legislative process or through some personal assistance with any problems with state government. I hope you will always feel free to call on me." /s/ James P. King, Member of Assembly.

Constituents are always welcome to contact Assemblyman King at his Albany Office; tel. 455-5565, Glens Falls at 21 Bay St., tel. 792-4546 or his Ticonderoga office, 1 Carnegie Place, tel 585-7310.

NORTH COUNTRY DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

will meet on Sunday, Sep 18 from 1-3PM . There will be car pooling. For further information, please call: 585-6222 or 543-6197.

NORTH COUNTRY DANCE

Square Dance callers Stan and Cathie Burdick, along with the Hague Chamber of Commerce will be presenting square dancing at the Community Center in Hague every second Wednesday throughout the winter from 7:30-9:30PM. The next dance is scheduled for Sep 17. Square, Line, Solo, and Reel will all be included.

The dances are made possible by funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and Warren County, NY. For further information, call 543-8824.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14, Jan 11, Feb .8, Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, Jun 14.

FLU SHOTS will be given in the Community Center from 1-2PM on Oct 19. Further information will be forthcoming in October's issue.

CARILLON GARDEN CLUB TO HOLD BAZAAR

The Carillon Garden Club will hold its annual bazaar on Saturday, Oct 8, at the United Methodist Church on Wicker St in Ticonderoga. Doors open at 10AM and close at 2PM. There will be tables of crafts, baked goods, white elephants, etc. and the last chance for purchasing a raffle ticket on the beautiful quilt made by a group of ladies from the club. The winner of the raffle will be announced at 2PM, along with a door prize winner. Please come, browse, buy and support the efforts of the Garden Club in their efforts to beautify the area, including Hague.

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Hague Senior Citizens Club will have an outing on Thursday, Oct 6. It will be a luncheon cruise on the Lac de St. Sacramento.

Bus transportation to Lake George will be furnished, and will leave Hague Community Center at 10AM.

The cost of the cruise, with luncheon, is \$20.50. Of this, each Senior will be expected to pay \$11.00.

Anyone who is 50-plus, and a resident of Hague, seasonal or year round, may register for this trip by phoning 543-6161. Trip is limited to 45 and registration deadline is SEPTEMBER 21. This is a day earlier than mentioned in our letter because the steamship company needs the information on that date. (First come, first served). When you have been assured of a place on the reservation list, please mail check for \$11.00 to Ethel W. Andrus, P.O. Box 2551, Silver Bay, NY 12874-2551. . . ewa

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hague Historical Society is planning a car-pooling trip to Lake George on WEDNESDAY, SEP 28. We will visit the HISTORICAL MUSEUM, which is located in the old Warren County Courthouse, and FORT WILLIAM HENRY. We plan to be in Lake George no later than 10AM , which is the hour that both museums open. The price of admission to the museums is: Historical Museum: \$3.00; For William Henry \$6.42. Add to this the price of your lunch - restaurant still to be decided upon. Make out a check payable to: HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY in the amount of \$9.42 per person, and mail the check to Ethel W. Andrus, PO Box 2551, Silver Bay, NY 12874-2551. To register for this trip, please call 543-6161 during business hours Monday thru Friday. Indicate if you can supply a ride, or need a ride.

All registrations for the trip MUST be in BY Sep 22.

REMEMBER: The day of the trip is Sep 28. We will assemble at the HAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER parking lot at 8:45AM

PLEASE indicate when registering if you would be willing to share your car with someone who does not drive or does not care to drive. Don't forget to send your check to Ethel.

Passengers are urged to contribute a buck or two toward driving expenses.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE HH SOCIETY TO GO ON THIS TRIP! . . ewa

CLEANING has not been scheduled. Watch for the time to be posted at the Community Center, Post Office and general store.

NOW SHOWING at The Hancock Gallery, located in the Hancock House Museum at Moses Circle in Ticonderoga, are acrylic paintings by Wendy Best and water colors by Mary Bowditch. Coming on Oct. 8-29 are oil paintings by Mary Barre.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LAKE GEORGE ASSOCIATION

The prime attraction that brings residents and visitors to Lake George is the pristine quality of its water.

However, a new report on Lake George shows a steady decline in that quality over a decade of scientific tests. The report proves that past actions to stabilize water quality have not yet succeeded.

The Lake George Association intends to intensify its efforts to act on the causes of the decline- to reverse the damage from increasing amounts of pollution.

We call upon everyone who cares about the future of Lake George to join with us in launching an intensive, community-wide program. Our mutual goal is to protect this unique resource which is so integral to every phase of our lives.

The measure of a man is not how tall he is, but how much his neighbors respect him. . . James Maness

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 8/25/94

A public hearing was held for Maiaro (20-1-32) Marine Boat Storage. A letter was received objecting to the project from a next-door neighbor requesting denial on the basis that the applicant had not met zoning ordinance requirements. The project requires a Lake George Park Commission permit and the application has been received.

A motion was made and passed to keep the public hearing open to allow Mr. Maiaro time to respond to Mr. Noordsy's letter which he had not seen before. At the regular meeting, and based on the new evidence, it was decided that the project required a use variance.

Lazarus (66-1-13) - Shoreline setback area variance. The planning board needs more information and the ZBA will need to vote approval at its next meeting. . . gl

PLANNING BOARD - 9/1/94

The Christmas/Disbrow sub-division near Jabe Pond was tabled to allow extra time to prepare the required information

Kwartler (47-1-5.1) minor sub-division. At Mr. Breitenbach's suggestion the board could utilize Article VI which allows the board to waive particular regulations under certain circumstances. Otherwise the proposal requires an area variance before it can be sub-divided. This is an unusual case because it separates a 20x25 lot that contains a family cemetery plot from the parent lot. Mr. Patchett moved to refer the matter to the ZBA and recommend a favorable decision. A site visit will be scheduled.

Dykstra (4-1-17), off New Hague Rd. Type II Site Plan Review. Sand and gravel extraction.

Questions were asked about the use and planned time schedule. It was explained the town intends to use the sand pit to stockpile sand for the 1994-95 winter season. The board will review and a public hearing will be heard. A site visit is also scheduled.

Weldon (62-1-4) Type I Site Plan Review. Deck and stairs. This was inadvertently done without a permit. Retroactive appraisal is requested. A site visit is scheduled.

At both the Zoning and Planning Board meetings, the Zoning Administrator, John Breitenbach, Jr.'s letter of resignation was read. . . gl

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING 8/23/94

Meeting was called to pass four resolutions. All were passed unanimously.

Resolution #20, dealing with sales tax.

Resolution #21, authorizing the issuance of up to \$1,100,000 serial bonds for Reclamation project.

Resolution #22, adopting affirmative action policy.

Resolution #23, authorizing SRF application and project financing agreement.

M. Fitzgerald made a motion to accept proposal of Christian Gearwar for forestry services. Carried.

If you think education is expensive, try ignorance. . . .

Bill Eicher

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING 9/13/94

Among the more important items brought up at the town board meeting on Sep 13 was a request by John Glading to resolve what he feels will become an even more serious problem as time goes by - the anchoring and mooring of boats at the campsite, which he considers illegal. He would like the board to revise Hague Town Ordinance #1 of 1985 which prevents any anchoring of boats (except for fishing) less than 200 ft. from shore. Mr. Glading had done a great deal of investigating to support his position. The board will consider his request to extend the ordinance to apply from that northern-most line to the Waltonian Is.

A proposal by Stan Burdick, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, to develop a cartooning program complete with workshops, ended in the town board making a resolution (#26) to apply for a Decentralization grant for 1995. Since this is a grant which requires equal money from the community, a small charge would be necessary, but the idea won approval from the residents attending the meeting.

After reading John Breitenbach, Jr.'s letter of resignation as Zoning Administrator (see p6), the appointment of William Bothe as the new Zoning Administrator was made. He is resigning from the town of Kent to work for us on a part-time basis. There are no benefits with this job, but Mr. Bothe will receive mileage for out of town meetings. This job starts Sep 14 and will be a probationary appointment until Jan 1, 1995. He is being paid \$10 per hr. Mr. Bothe is building a home on the West Hague Rd. Supervisor Belden stated that John had done a very good job for the town, which he appreciated.

Councilwoman Linda Coffin made a statement about Mr. Breitenbach's resignation. She stated that she personally appreciated what he did for the town of Hague and knew that the Planning Board and ZBA appreciated his guidance. He worked at least 40 hours a week and met regularly with the two boards. He wrote a grant for \$10,000 for stormwater, which we received; wrote a grant which gives us a portion of the \$30,000 from LGPC and wrote the NY-SERTA grant for the reclamation of the landfill. Mrs. Coffin asked the town board to accept his resignation with regret.

In other business:

Our Small Cities Block Grant has been accepted and we should know in Oct whether we will receive same.

The Brown's Young Boaters' Course was attended by 25 young people and the Silver Bay swim program by 40 children.

The Hague Justice Dept and the town are pricing computers for the department. It is necessary to be able to put out the required information as quickly as possible.

A letter from Christian Gearwar, who is conducting the Hague timber sale, gave details for this sale and the board signing his contract.

There is still discussion with IDA about payments (how much per ton) for disposal of our landfill materials. Our reclamation project was approved by the state but our lawyer informed the Supervisor not to sign the order on consent we received, because of the language therein. A new one is being sent. (Cont on p. 4 TOWN BOARD) 9/94

TOWN BOARD (Cont from p. 3)

Our stormwater committee is looking at the Bolton plan with the hopes of working together with all Warren County towns.

It may take the usual lengthy process but the sewer does get closer as money becomes more available.

Our town park figures compare favorably with last year's.

We will sign a contract with Ti Youth for \$615 for the year '95. This will include our children in the Ti youth programs.

Application will be accepted at the town hall for the rehab of 5 homes for low income people. Call Martin Fitzgerald, Jr. at 761-6410 (Municipal Center in Lake George) for information.

We are having CLEANUP DAYS in the town on Oct. 11 & 12. See separate article.

The following resolutions were passed:

Res. #24 Youth Matching Funds

Res. #25 \$50 allowance for petty cash

Res. #2^ Decentralization grant.

An agreement has been reached with Bond Council for landfill closure.

ZONING. AN IMPORTANT PART OF HAGUE

Towns located within the Blue-line of the Adirondack Park may require numerous jurisdictional permits from governmental agencies prior to subdividing land, building structures, or changing the use of land and/or buildings. Hague has an APA approved land use plan, so many land use proposals can be handled at the local level by the volunteers who serve on the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Developmental Administrator in Hague is appointed by the Town Board, has the the power and duty to administer and enforce the provisions of the Hague Zoning Ordinance, maintain all required records, and guide both the volunteer boards and the public through the governmental regulations and forms required prior to obtaining necessary permits.

The Boards and/or the Developmental Administrator must perform all duties as required by law and may not act in a way that could be considered without or in excess of jurisdiction, violate a lawful procedure, act arbitrarily or capriciously, abuse discretion, and/or make a decision unsupported by substantial evidence. Failure to perform within these guide lines could result in the aggrieved parties filing an Article 78, which is part of the New York State Civil Practice law and rules which provide for judicial review of the actions or non-actions of the governmental agencies and officials.

In my opinion, John Breitenbach, Jr. did an outstanding job as Planning Administrator for the Town of Hague since his appointment in 1989. He has put in many extra hours of his own time by attending meetings at the State and County level; he has been available to the public evenings and week-ends when necessary; he has obtained additional funding for the Town by writing grants. He has worked diligently to help the public obtain permits for pro-

jects when they fell within the Zoning guide-lines as prescribed by law. Some people were unable to obtain requested permits because their request did not conform to jurisdictional requirements. I have never seen John Breitenbach, Jr. render a decision that was not supported by the available evidence as supplied by the applicant. I hope that our new Planning Administrator will be able to service the Town and the Public with the same dedication as John Breitenbach did during his almost six years in this position.

HISTORIC MARKERS A PROJECT OF CARILLON GARDEN CLUB

As a result of a silent auction of tea cups and other china, another major historic site in Ticonderoga will be identified with a boulder monument and bronze tablet. This marker will identify the original site of the CARILLON BRIDGE on the Fort Road in Ticonderoga.

Built in 1755 by the French Canadian engineer, Michel Chartier de Lotbiniere, the bridge was last reconstructed in 1990 by A. P. Reale & Sons, the firm now donating the boulder on which the tablet will be mounted.

As part of their beautification program of historic and other sites, the Garden Club has also "adopted" the Carillon Bridge area, assuming responsibility for much of the sweeping and removal of debris in the area.

Officers and members of the Carillon Garden Club extend to tea cup and china donors, and to the buying public, their appreciation for the success of the auction. The Ticonderoga Historical Society provided space at the Hancock House on Moses Circle for the auction display.

... Sharon Lonergan, Committee Chairman

EMS COURSES

There will be an AEMT-II course at the Elizabethtown-Lewis Central School starting Sep 27 running Tuesday and Thursday nights. There will also be a Basic EMT Challenge Refresher course starting 10/14. For more information on either course, please contact Patty Bashaw at 873-7379 or 873-3695.

THE HOMEWORK CONNECTION

As part of Ti Middle School's improvement plan, the idea of a homework line was being investigated as a way for parents to become more involved with their child's studies. THE HOMEWORK CONNECTION is a computerized system that will allow parents and students to call a telephone number and retrieve information from teachers and staff at the Middle School any time of day or night. The following information will be available: classroom activities, homework assignments and announcements concerning Middle School activities.

By the daily use of the HOMEWORK CONNECTION, it is believed that there will be an improved attitude toward homework on the part of the child, that parents will be able to provide more support to teachers concerning homework, and that parents will have more of a handle on what their child is learning and activities that their child is involved in.

Parents or students can access the HOMEWORK CONNECTION by calling 585-5272 or 585-5273 daily.

THE BELLS OF HAGUE

Laura Meade

Many years ago, before electric power was available in this area, before cars appeared on paved roads, before supermarkets and newspaper deliveries and gas-powered motor boats on Lake George, there was a familiar sound in the hamlets of Hague, Silver Bay and Sabbath Day Point. There was a sound that summoned people to worship services, funerals, meal times, weddings and other special occasions. We have all heard that sound! It is the tolling of a bell from a church steeple or a bell tower sending out a message for people to gather.

Have you ever thought about how bells were made so their messages could ring clearly across the fields and valleys to the hilltops and lakeshores? Where did the bells come from? How were they made? And who made them?

This summer a visitor from Virginia, whose father is an expert on the history of bell casting, drove into the yard at the Grace Memorial Chapel at Sabbath Day Point hoping to find out if the bell in the chapel tower there was a Meneely Bell, made in Troy over a hundred years ago. Frank Tetz, a neighbor and trustee of the chapel, obligingly climbed into the tower with her and they discovered that truly, it was a Meneely bell which was cast as a special order in 1884! A lively conversation followed during which the visitor, Pamela Lynn, her children and Mr. Tetz discussed the history of that particular bell and bell-making in general.

Soon after that Mr. Tetz received the text of a presentation prepared by Winthrop Warren of Fairfield, CT., a world-renowned expert on the history of bell-making in Europe and America - and the father of Mrs. Lynn. That report says that there are no more bell casting businesses in the U.S., except for two small companies in Pennsylvania that make hand bells. After reading the text, I became curious about the complexities of bell-making and especially about the Meneely family's expertise (and frequent feuds). Could there be other Meneely bells in this area? I asked Mark Johnson, Executive Director of the Silver Bay Association, if the bell in the auditorium there, which summoned students to classes many years ago and still is rung for special events, could be a Meneely bell? "Yes!", he said confidently, "made in 1909." Then I wondered about the bells in Hague at the Wesleyan, Baptist and Catholic Churches. An investigation by Fred Klingler at the Wesleyan Church revealed that the bell there was definitely cast by the Meneely foundry in Troy, and the Rev. David Lawrence of the Baptist Church said the bell there is also a Meneely bell. And, finally, Jim DeLarm confirmed that the Catholic Church bell is a Meneely bell, cast in Troy.

So, because of an inquiry by a summer visitor, which was followed up by her father's sharing of his knowledge and by some questions to local people, it has been determined that there are FIVE unusually fine historic Meneely bells still ringing out their messages loud and clear in the Town of Hague. For more information on these bells, contact the trustees or church historians who have been given

the text of the history of bell making as prepared by Winthrop Warren.

Ed: This is a special report to The Hague Chronicle by Nature Editor Laura Meade.

MOHICAN HOME BUREAU STARTS NEW YEAR

On Aug 7 the Mohican Home Bureau completed the 93-94 year with a very successful participation in the Hague Arts and Craft Fair. Frances Viola won the afghan, the squares of which were made by members. These were then put together by Cindy Coon.

On Tuesday, Sep 13, the 94-95 year will begin. Meetings are held bi-monthly at the Hague Community Center at 10AM. Officers for this year are Carol Brown and Millie Stockholm, Co-presidents; Kay Caldera, Vice President; Peg Huntley, Secretary; Jackie Ambra, Co-Secretary; Marion Reath, Treasurer.

The Mohican Home Bureau will meet in the Activity Room in the Hague Community Center at 10AM on the following Tuesday dates: Sep 13 and 27; Oct 4 and 18; Nov 1 and 15; Dec 6 (Christmas party); Jan 3 and 17; Feb 7 and 21; Mar 7 and 21; Apr 4 and 18; May 2 and 16; June 13 (Spring Luncheon)

Anyone with an interest in crafts, serving the community and nurturing children is welcome. For more information contact Carol Brown, 543-6403. . . cwb

WEATHER NOTES

Mary Lou Doulin

Three adjectives to describe the summer of '94 could be wet, fast and pleasant. This was the wettest July on record. Also in July we had considerable amounts of lightning storms, which I'm sure helped to repair the ozone layer. On July 21 the lightning went on for hours. The only heat wave was the dog days of July - the 7th 8th and 9th, when we had temperatures of 90 with excessive humidity.

August was cool and humid with ample rainfall. The full moon was August 21. The nights of Aug '11 and 12 were quite clear and provided a good backdrop for viewing the Perseus meteor showers.

September has started out beautifully. Except for Wed. the entire week of the 4th through the 10th has been gorgeous early fall weather. Needless to say, things have been quite green, flowers are thriving and the gardens have continued to produce.

The red and green, yellow and gold
And all the colors to behold
Were widely used in disarray
To make a bright October day.
Oh what a picture twas to see
The pine with everlasting green
Add luster to the scene.

. . . Nelson Waters, 1951

CUB SCOUT PACK 21 NEWS

Pack 21 would like to extend a very grateful thank you to the Town workers who collected and redeemed the bottles and cans at the landfill this summer and to the contributors whose donations helped benefit our Cub Scouts. We really appreciate you!

Also, a heartfelt thank you goes out to Kay Wells who shared 5 years of her time and talents with all the boys of her den and our pack. I'm sure we share many special memories. Thanks too, to her able helpers, Walt Wells and Tricia Stonitsch.

At this time we need to "beef up" our pack leadership and membership, if we in fact are to remain an active pack. Anyone interested in fun and helping boys aged 7-11 learn facts and skills to help them grow, please call Karen Costello at 543-6590. Boys in grades 2-4 interested in joining Cub Scouts, please call the same number. . KC

HVED RUMMAGE SALE

Winding down to go into winter hibernation ... but the ladies of the Fire Dept will be on the job Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 9 to 3, with evening hours on Fri and Sat (6-8PM) until SEPTEMBER 30. We still have lots of lovely sweaters - and all sorts of other apparel - and all clothing is priced at 10c per item - yes, even coats and jackets. Stock up now for those frosty days. . .ewa

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR RESIGNS

John Breitenbach, Jr has resigned after 6 years in this capacity. The following is his letter of resignation, dated August 16, 1994 to Supervisor Belden and the Hague Town Board:

"I am writing this letter as notice of my resignation as Planning Administrator for the Town of Hague effective 2 September 1994.

The decision to resign has been extremely difficult for me. I feel that the position of Planning Administrator is a very important one and I have been very pleased to accept the challenges that the job requires. Working cooperatively, as an integral part of local government, has been very rewarding. The opportunity to work with many dedicated and conscientious people has truly been my pleasure.

However, it is increasingly apparent to me that the present administration prefers to operate in a less than cooperative manner and with little or no communication. Staff are provided with no clear direction or defined goals. Under these circumstances, it is not possible to continue serving the residents of Hague in a fair and effective manner. As such, I feel compelled to resign rather than compromise the integrity of my office.

Very truly yours, /s/ John Breitenbach, Jr.

Life is like a sandwich. The more you add to it, the better it becomes. . . Dorothea Mattson

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

On Sept 12 Camille Frasier, an oncology nurse at the Cancer Treatment Center of Glens Falls Hospital, presented a wonderfully informative program on breast cancer and the services offered at the hospital.

On Oct 17 (3rd Monday, due to Columbus Day) at 7PM at the Hague Community Center, a program on travel will be presented. Joann Killian, owner of The Travel Shop in South Glens Falls for the past six years, will present a program on places to go and not to go, bargains in the vacation world, updates on cruises, and a tour guide's tour of the Caribbean. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Ms. Killian has an Associate's Degree in Applied Science and Tourism. She has been a travel agent for seventeen years and has traveled extensively all over the world.

Women Helping Women is a group of women who meet informally the second Monday of each month (except for Oct) with guest speakers covering topics concerned with women's well being - physical, emotional, social and intellectual. . . VJDB

WHY IS 'X' A KISS?

Our custom of putting X's at the end of letters and notes to symbolize kisses grew out of medieval legal practices. In order to indicate good faith and honesty in those days, the sign of St. Andrew - a cross - was placed after the signature on all important documents.

Thereafter, contracts and agreements were not considered binding until each signer added St. Andrew's cross after his name. Then he was required to kiss the document to further guarantee faithful performance of his obligations. The cross was drawn hurriedly and often it was tilted and looked much like the letter "X".

Over the centuries, the origin of the ceremony was forgotten. But people still associated the "X" with the kiss instead of the pledge of good faith, and the custom has continued into modern times. . Marvin Vanoni

Autumn

On every tree the landscape o'er
On every shrub and herb,
The artist, Autumn, casts a charm
Of colour scheme superb.

Her brush is dipped in golden hues,
In carmine tint and brown;
A wand she waves, then smiling views
The re-created town.

A carnival of colours bright
In every park and street,
And leafy carpets of delight
Beneath her royal feet.

Long may her sunset hues remain,
Their beauty give delight,
Ah! soon! too soon! the cloak must fall,
Her funeral robe of white.

. . . John Homester

SOUNDINGS

BORN - A daughter, Kayla Kristine, to Thomas (Skip) and Judith Girard, Ramsey, NJ on August 20. Proud grandparents are Ray and Evelyn Monroe, Graphite and Mrs. Robert (Bette) Rypkema, Waldwick, NJ and Hague.

DIED - Kenneth E. Smith, Sr., 83, formerly of Hague and most recently The Hallmark Nursing Home of Granville on Aug. 20, 1994 at the Glens Falls Hospital. Survivors include his wife Mary Elizabeth (Holman), son Kenneth Jr. and daughter Mrs. Albert (Hazel) Dean, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

DIED - Harry Z. Ackerman, 98, Hague, NJ and Vero Beach, FL on Aug. 31 at Moses-Ludington Hospital. He is survived by one son and two daughters, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Mr. Ackerman has been residing recently with his daughter, Mildred Stockholm, Friends Point, Hague.

DIED - Gary Rich, 54, Mountain Home, ID. Mr. Rich is originally from Port Henry and is survived by a son, a daughter and grandchildren. He was the brother of Joan Belden, Hague.

DIED - Frederick Pohl, 54 on August 30 in New Jersey. Mr. Pohl was a West Hague Rd summer resident. He is survived by his wife, Sally, and two daughters.

DIED - Levon P. Cederstrom, 104, Queensbury and Booth Bay Harbor, ME, on Sep 7 in Saratoga Springs. Mrs. Cederstrom began her teaching career in 1907 in ME and retired after a number of years in Hague Central School, where she taught sixth grade. She is survived by three sons, one daughter, 19 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

MARRIED - Patricia Rodriguez, Bogota, Columbia, and Phillip Goetsch; son of Mr & Mrs Arnold Goetsch, Hague, on August 6 at the home of his parents. A reception followed.

MARRIED - Tom Stull a long-time resident of Hague and Dorothy Allen, postmaster of Ticonderoga, in an outdoor ceremony at their home on the Hague Rd. on Sep 10.

WILLIAM E. BODNAR, III, grandson of Bill and Lillian Bodnar, Pine Cove Road, Hague has returned to his duties as Commander of ROTC Detachment 172 at Valdosta State University, GA, where he is a senior, after a visit with his parents, Bill and Gigi (Beaton) Bodnar, Assembly Point. "Bill" is on the Dean's List with a 4.0 GPA. After graduation in June '95, he will be commissioned in the US Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant.

CONGRATULATIONS to MARTHA and GEORGE BECK on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary on August 19.

CONGRATULATIONS also to MARK JOHNSON, Executive Director of Silver Bay Association, on his recent appointment to the Board of Directors of the Adirondack Nature Conservancy.

HAGUE AMERICAN LEGION Money Doll raffle was won by Jeanette Stelter, Delhi, NY. Over \$1100.00 was added to the Legion treasury through this fund raiser.

MORE HAGUE HISTORY

We started last month to tell you about the Watrous houses in Hague. A wonderful informational paper has been written about these houses by Katherine Mills Price in 1977. Mrs. Price was a long-time summer resident of Hague. The following are excerpts from her paper. If you would like a copy in its entirety, I would be willing to make you one. A contribution of \$1.00 would help defray the expenses.

The Watrous family were summer residents of Hague for about fifty years. The first record in their guest book is in 1893. They owned a great deal of land and left an indelible impression on the community. This was due to their vivid personalities and also because of the many houses and cottages that they built.

The immediate family consisted of two brothers, Henry and Walter, their mother, "Madam Watrous" and Walter's son, Livingston.

Harry was a very well known painter. His wife, Elizabeth Nichols, was also an artist, and a person of great originality. They had no children but were known as Aunt Bessie and Uncle Harry to generations of children in Hague.

Walter was a gentleman farmer. At one time he was in the wholesale lumber business in Glens Falls. Madame Watrous made her home with her son Walter in the large house known as "Sentinel Pines".

The Watrouses seemed to enjoy building houses and cottages for their own pleasure and for the use of friends and relatives. Some were sold but many were loaned to friends for years.

It is believed that most of the cottages were designed by Elizabeth Watrous. They were her individual stamp. The large semi-circular porches on a number of them were especially notable. Interior decoration was often of the Bohemian art type. Walls were covered with turkey-red or bright orange cheesecloth brought to a rosette in the center of the ceiling.

Mrs. Watrous liked using various cottages for special forms of entertainment. "Rock and Rye" was the scene of colorful costume luncheons. Camp Kit was used for evening camp-fire song fests. "The Playhouse" for afternoon teas, their own house for all forms of special entertainment.

"Chipwick" and "Sentinel Pines" were reviewed in the August 1994 issue.

Continuing from south to north the next cottage, once the Cape Cod Restaurant, burned down in 1977. It had been an old school house on the Split Rock Road. Walter Watrous had it moved, added a dining room with bay windows and turned it into a delightful cottage.

"Water-Log" (which has since been torn down and rebuilt by the Michael Tobeyes) was bought by Mr. Joseph Hembrooke in 1923. This house is closer to the water than any of the other cottages, hence the name. It has a beautiful semi-circular porch. (Cont. on p. 8) 9/94

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

September

- 18 North County Democratic Women meeting (see p2)
- 13 Home Bureau - 10AM, Community Bldg.
- 20 Assemblyman King at Town Center from 10-11AM.
- 20 Fish and Game Club meeting
- 21 School Board meeting - THS Cafeteria, 7:30PM
- 22 Elementary School Open House - 7PM
- 27 Home Bureau - 10AM, Community Ctr. (p5)
- 28 Hague Historical Soc. trip (p 2)
- 28 Planetarium Show - Ti High School - 7:30PM

October

- 3 HVFD meeting - 7:30 - Firehouse
- 4 Home Bureau meeting - 10AM, Community Ctr. (p5)
- 3 -6 Elementary School Book Fair
- 6 Senior Citizens luncheon cruise (p2)
- 8 HVFD Columbus Day Dinner, Silver Bay (p1)
- 8 Carillon Garden Club Bazaar - (see p2)
- 17 Women Helping Women - Community Center, 7:00PM
- 11-16 Magazine collection at Transfer Station
- 12 North County Square Dance - 7:30-9:30PM (p 2)
- 19 Flu shots to be given at Community Center

WATROUS HOUSES (Cont from p7)

Mrs. Joseph Turner's cottage (now the home of the Robert Stout family) was originally an old farmhouse. I do not know when Mrs. Watrous bought it. She added a dining room and porch, and hung the walls and ceilings with bright orange cheese cloth. The house was owned for a number of years by General Charles Saltzman. Dr. & Mrs. Turner bought it in 1947. (The likely builder of the farmhouse was Levi Newton as he sold it to Mrs. Watrous -C. West, Historian)

"Rock & Rye", the only one of the Watrous houses not on 9N. It was on Rt 8 across the Hague Brook and called the Mill House in early days. It was occupied by various friends and relatives, and used by Mrs. Watrous for special entertainments. It burned down in 1927 when the John Keenans lived there. The property is now owned by NYS on which was a fish wier. This was removed in 1990.

"Garry Owens" (now owned by William Vanderveer underwent great repairs and changes in recent years. This is one of the most interesting houses in Hague, combining as it does the charm of a Watrous House with some vivid history of the Wild West. The house was built by the Watrouses and sold to Col. Herbert Slocum in the early 1900's. Slocum was an officer in the 7th Cavalry, the Custer Massacre Regiment. He joined the regiment a few years after the massacre, when the memories were still very vivid. "Garry Owen" is the 7th Cavalry's Irish tune. The house was named Garry Owen as was their boat. After the massacre, it was a tradition that if anyone proposed a toast to the 7th Cavalry, one foot must be on the table. This tradition was followed faithfully by the Slocums. I have seen it done. Another colorful tradition - when the rescue columns reached the scene of the Custer Massacre, the Cavalry horse "Commander" was the only living thing on the battlefield. After that Commander was an honored mascot, and no one was allowed to ride him. He did have to be exercised, however, and my mother used to take him out on a leading rope attached to her horse's bridle. This, of course, took place at one of the Western Posts. Commander was never at Lake George.

Slocum was also a close friend of "Buffalo Bill" (William Cody) ---- More houses in future issues.

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