



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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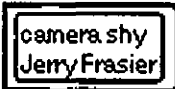
January 2007

YOUR TOWN AT WORK

(First in a series of articles about the people who work in Hague as we celebrate the Hague Bicentennial.)



Dan Steitz



Perry Girard



Highway Superintendent
Don Smith



Rick Myers



Jason Laundree

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Town of Hague Highway Department is headquartered at the Town Shed on West Hague Road. In that neatly organized building there are bays where the members of the department service the highway equipment and prepare trucks for the next task - salting, plowing, etc.

The department employees are all residents of Hague who have attended school in either Hague or Ticonderoga. They have a good cooperative relationship with the Town, the Chamber of Commerce and the Fire Department often filling in when many hands are needed. In addition they cooperate with the State and County workers when they need extra help on a local project. It should be noted that, by law, they cannot work on projects for private property owners.

A task that begins when most people are still sleeping occurs when a big storm hits and regardless of the time of day, the Department is ready to clear and salt roads. Elected Highway Superintendent Smith can decide to call the men out or it may be in response to a request from the State or County. Since maintaining the roads during storms is one of the most important aspects of their job to the public, residents are reminded that cars must not be parked on the roads so the trucks can plow properly.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

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

Senior Citizens' exemption: This exemption, which must be renewed each year, is for primary residence homeowners over age 65 with the following household income ceilings for these taxing jurisdictions: County \$23,700; Town \$17,725; School \$12,500

Enhanced STAR exemption: For primary residence homeowners over age 65 with household income less than \$67,850. The Senior exemption and Enhanced STAR exemption renewal forms were sent to those who had these exemptions last year.

Basic STAR exemption: For all primary residence homeowners. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year, once the first application is approved. **Veterans' exemption:** For primary residence homeowners with military service during wartime periods. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year.

Details and applications are available Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The filing deadline is March 1, 2007.

The New Year 2007 has arrived and the Seniors are looking forward to another productive year. January's meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 23rd - at 1:30 PM at the Community Center. Our Guest Speaker will be Elizabeth Shriner of the Glens Falls Association for the Blind.

Please take note: Before the meeting - starting at 1 o'clock - Elizabeth Shriner will conduct a FREE EYE HEALTH SCREENING and if necessary, again after the meeting. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this free eye screening, please stop in. You are welcome. We also invite you to stay for the afternoon's program which should be very interesting. Refreshments will follow.

Do check this column every month for our news articles to stay abreast of what is happening with the Hague Seniors. Anyone who is at least 55 can join and membership is still only \$5.00 per year. We meet every fourth Tuesday of the month, usually at 1:30 PM. The door is always open to new members. Come check us out. We will leave the *Light on for You!*

If you have any questions, please give Madeline Pelkey a call at 543-6130. ... mp

FIREMEN ACHIEVE CERTIFICATION

Ten Hague Firemen recently completed a total of 240 hours of training for certification as a Confined Space Rescue Team. Equipment and training expenditures amounted to \$7,400, a considerable savings to the Town of Hague. We are proud to add this new facet to the department's capability. If anyone would like to help defray these costs with a contribution, it would be gratefully accepted.

In December there were 3 fire calls using 21 man hours, and also 3 ambulance calls using 19.5 man hours.

This year the Winter Carnival Firemen's Breakfast will be offered only on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 7-11 a.m. As in the past, all proceeds will benefit the Mary Beste Scholarship Fund. Help us support this very worthy cause.

Winter has been a long time coming, but ice is beginning to form on some smaller lakes and ponds. Be careful of thin ice and near anywhere that ice eaters are in use. ...jm

The Champlain Valley Chorale announces resumption of rehearsals for its upcoming Spring concert. Weekly rehearsals will be held each Tuesday evening at 7:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church, Wicker Street, Ticonderoga, beginning January 23, 2007, and continuing to the concert presentation in May. New singers in all sections are welcomed, and no audition is necessary. For further information, please contact the president, Richard Barney, at 585-9809.

ROTARY CLUB TO HOLD AUCTION

The Rotary Club of Northern Lake George will hold a silent auction in connection with the Beste Scholarship dinner on the Hague Winter Weekend. The auction will take place at the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks on Saturday, February 17th at 6 PM. There will be items and gift certificates donated by many area businesses. Proceeds will be used for the Rotary Club's many local projects including scholarship, support for our schools, help for the needy, as well as worldwide programs including foreign student exchanges and eradicating polio. Come and have a good dinner, find some wonderful auction bargains and have a great time. All are welcome.

SILVER BAY EVENTS

A monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast meets the first Friday of every month. On Friday, February 2, the breakfast will be held from 7:30 - 9:00 am in Brookside Community House on the Silver Bay campus. There is no charge for this program.

During the Hague Winter Weekend, The Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks will hold an interdenominational worship service on Sunday, February 18 at 10:00 am in the Helen Hughes Memorial Chapel. Rev. Bruce Tamlyn will be preaching. All are welcome.

For folks coming back to town looking for lodging options, rooms will be available at Silver Bay YMCA during the Hague Winter Weekend. Rooms and heated cottages are available to fit all budgets. Complete details are available at <www.silverbay.org/lodging>.

TICONDEROGA COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Fort Ticonderoga, the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum and the Ticonderoga Historical Society are jointly sponsoring a series of programs for the community.

The next event is a program "Once Upon an Island" presented on January 31 at 7 pm by Fred Provancha. Following that will be "David Rusco: Revolutionary War Soldier.." by Elsa Gilbertson on February 14th at 7 pm. Both programs will take place at the Thompson-Pell Research Center at Fort Ticonderoga.

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

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly tax deductible contribution to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748

Editor: Dorothy Henry

Publisher: Judith Stock (518-543-6517)

TICONDEROGA REVITALIZATION

The Ticonderoga Town Board recently formally adopted the town's comprehensive plan. It is the town's only fully comprehensive plan adopted to date and the first land-use plan adopted by the town in some thirty years. The plan focuses on promoting economic growth while preserving every historical aspect of the town and its unique natural environment. The comprehensive plan is to serve as the foundation for restructuring the town's zoning ordinance and may also form part of the basis of discussions with the Adirondack Park Agency.

The town has also received additional grant money for its Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership (TMSP) in its pursuit of sustained grassroots efforts to revitalize the downtown area. All Ticonderoga residents and other persons are invited to attend and participate in the TMSP monthly meetings from 4:30 - 6 pm at the Supervisor's Office in the Community Building on Montcalm Street. This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 16th and will feature Teresa Lynch, a Senior Program Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Further information about the Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership may be obtained from its website <www.ticonderogamainstreet.com> or from Brick Howe at 518-585-2746 or <eahowe@rosevilleco.com>.

WITH THE LGLC

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) recently hosted a discussion about incentives for landowners who voluntarily protect private lands using conservation easements. The new incentives include an increased federal tax deduction and a New York State tax credit. Whether a working family farm, forest land, shoreline or other natural resource, local landowners can ensure that their family lands remains as is, for their children and for future generations, by protecting the important conservation values on their lands from future development through the granting of a conservation easement. Federal tax deductions will be allowed only for conservation easements donated by December 31, 2007, unless extended by Congress. New York State will grant a tax credit. For more information call or e-mail Diane Potter at the Lake George Land Conservancy at 518-644-9673 or <dpotter@tnc.org>.

FREE TAX HELP

The Hague Chamber of Commerce will again be coordinating the AARP Tax aide program. Free tax counseling and preparation will take place at the Community Center. Further details will be published next month.



Paparellas on fall scavenger hunt at Silver Bay

FREE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AT SILVER BAY

The Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks will hold an Open House Week from January 29 - February 3 on the Silver Bay campus. Participants are encouraged to try the fitness center, a fitness class, and the climbing wall in the Fisher Gymnasium. The Open House is free to all in the community and will introduce new community programs in fitness and conditioning, indoor wall climbing, and the beginning of monthly events - a dinner and movie and a community cook-off.

The first "Dinner and a Movie" will be held on Friday, February 2 at 6:00 pm in The Store. There is no fee but donations will be taken at the door. The First Community Cook-off will be a Homemade Soup and Bread Cook-off on Saturday, February 24 at 6:00 pm in The Store. There is no admission fee, but each family is asked to bring one homemade soup and/or homemade bread to share.

During the Open House Week, the Silver Bay YMCA Fitness Center will be open to local community members between the hours of 9 am and 11 am on Monday, January 29 and Wednesday January 31. On Tuesday, January 30 and Thursday, February 1 the hours are from 5 to 8 pm. A certified fitness trainer will be there to help assist, instruct, and answer anyone's questions regarding their fitness goals. A free Core Conditioning fitness class will be held on Tuesday, January 30th from 5-6pm and all levels welcome. The climbing wall will be open for all ages on Tuesday, January 30 at 6:30 pm and Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 pm. There is no charge for any of these programs during Open House Week. For further information on the fitness programs, contact the trainer, Doug Sham, at 543-8833, ext 249 or <DSham@silverbay.org>.

Following the free Open House week, a Silver Bay YMCA membership is required for use of the programs at the Fisher Gymnasium. Financial assistance with membership dues is made possible through the OPEN PATHWAYS program based on family income and number of dependents. OPEN PATHWAYS is made possible through the generous contributions of our members and supporters in the Annual Giving Campaign. Contact our Membership Director at 543.8833 ext 235 for details or to obtain an application.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 12/28/06

Chairman Robert Goetsch, Martin Fitzgerald, II, George Ianson, Glen McKee, Lindsay Mydlarz and Bill Pittman were all present. One seat remains vacant.

SHEEHAN (25.3-1-16) Graphite Mountain Rd. OC1/OCII

The applicant is requesting a variance for a six foot chain link fence and would like to maintain a one foot setback from the property line. The neighbors, the Girards, have given permission for the fence to remain until the ZBA makes their decision.

The Board determined the application to be complete and scheduled a public hearing for the January meeting.

PLANNING BOARD-1/4/07

Chairman David Swanson, Rolly Allen, John Brown, Tim Costello, Pam Peterson and Erwin Siwek were present. Peter Foster was absent.

WATERS (25.4-1-18.11) 239 Decker Hill Road. SCUZ/OC1

The applicant is requesting a four lot subdivision of a 16.1 acre parcel. Eleven lots have been subdivided from the original parcel since 1973. The proposed four lot subdivision is a Class B project. The Board members discussed with John Breitenbach, representing the applicant, the requirements for a major and minor subdivision. Using the Site Review process will allow the Planning Board to address most of the building and lot issues. The Board deemed the project a minor subdivision and set a date for a site visit. They also deemed the application complete and have set a public hearing for the February 1st meeting.

KOSTIDES (26.17-2-2) 8 Lakeshore Terrace, TR1

The applicant is requesting a subdivision into 3 lots of a 4.02 acres parcel at the top of Lakeshore Terrace. The original parcel is an irregular lot and a right of way will have to be given for the third lot to be developed. The Board discussed with Mr. Breitenbach, representing the applicant, the criteria that needed to be included in the sketch plan. No action was taken at the convenience of the applicant. Board member Peterson, who has adjoining property, recused herself from the table and discussion.

WHITE/BOSI (Lot # 93.12-1-4, 24, 35.1) Lakeshore Drive, TR-1

The applicants are applying for a lot line change for three lakefront lots. If approved, the three lots will be combined to become two lots. Adjoining properties (west of Route 9N) will be consolidated upon filing of the lot line change with Warren County. No lot will become more non-conforming. Contractor Skip Hourigan presented a survey of the lots and explained how they would be divided. A site visit was scheduled.

SHEEHAN (25.3-1-16) Graphite Mountain Rd. OC1/OCII

The applicant is requesting a variance for a six foot chain link fence and would like to maintain a one foot setback from the property line. The neighbors, the Girards, have given permission for the fence to remain until the ZBA makes their decision.

The Planning Board recommended to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which must decide on the variance, that the integrity of the four foot fence regulation be maintained.

RYPKEMA (43.5-2-5) 9820 Graphite Mountain Road, Hamlet

The applicant is applying for a change of use from a residential property to a commercial property in order to open a retail store selling furniture, home accessories, gifts, and wine. Retail operations are allowed in the Hamlet under Type I Site Plan Review and the applicant will have to comply with NY Liquor Authority Laws and be licensed for the sale of wine. A site visit was scheduled.

TOWN BOARD - 12/28/06

The Town Board met with all members present for their end of the year meeting to pay final claims and close the books for 2006. There is approximately \$225,000 unexpended in the general fund. After completing payments due for 2006, the rest will be applied to the unexpended balance budgeted to cover expenses for 2007. In the highway fund there is approximately \$167,000 remaining which will be used for remaining 2006 payments and applied to the budgeted unexpended balance for 2007. Councilman Gladu suggested that any additional unexpended highway funds be added to the highway capital fund to be used for necessary replacement of equipment.

It is hoped that the Supervisor will see that any unused monies are wisely invested in accounts or CD's with good rates of interest. It is this unexpended balance that is used each year to offset expenses which means less (or none) has to be raised by taxes. In effect we do not have a town tax for 2007 because the money was raised in previous years and is carried over as unexpended balance to be applied against the budgeted expenses for 2007.

Councilman Gladu gave a report on the status of the committee which has prepared the Noise Ordinance. The committee has completed its work and has recommended a permissive referendum be held during the second quarter of 2007 after a public information meeting. The report and ordinance can be downloaded from the homepage of the Town of Hague <townofhague.org>.

While at that website you can also download the update on property taxes from Councilman Gladu. You can get printed copies of these reports at the Community Center or through the Hague Chronicle.

TOWN BOARD - 1/3/07

The Town met with all members present for their organizational meeting and passed the resolutions necessary to designate an official depository (TD Banknorth in Bolton Landing), newspaper (Glens Falls Post Star), mileage reimbursement rates (\$0.38 per mile), petty cash funds and yearly contracts with the Fire Department, American Legion, Veterinarian, Senior Citizens, etc for services. The salaries and wages for all Town employees were set.

Appointments made were: Deputy Supervisor - Art Steitz, Records Manager - Deborah Manning, Zoning Enforcement Officer - Cathy Clark, Town Naturalist - David DeFranco, Community Center coordinator - Bertha Dunsmore, Animal Control - Linda Benway, CARE program - Edna Frasier and Bertha Dunsmore and Town Attorney - Dominick Viscardi.

Also David Swanson and Robert Goetsch to continue as chairmen of the Planning and Zoning Board respectively. Cathy Clark was appointed to the Town Park Commission with continuing members, Marty Brown and Michelle Gautreau.

The Board also approved the Procurement Policy which is required by law. Council member Frasier has been vigilant about Board adherence to the policy.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 1/9/07

Supervisor Dan Belden and Town Board members Art Steitz, Dick Gladu, Edna Frasier and Tom LaPointe were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Petey Michael.

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu explained that there had been questions about the differences in the tax assessment forms for Ticonderoga and Hague from people who own property in both towns. With two different rates of assessment, different counties and different formats in tax bills it points out that the tax statements can be misleading.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman LaPointe will get quotes on replacing the hallway and bathroom floors.

Fire - Councilman LaPointe reported on attending the meeting of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department and was "very impressed with their setup". He said they made 103 calls on the fire trucks last year and have \$2 million worth of equipment. They recently expended nearly \$8000 for a safety certification program which will allow the volunteers to attend to any emergencies at the sewage treatment plant. Some volunteer fire departments are looking into offering pensions in order to entice more volunteerism. Bolton is one such town and they will be looking at their plans.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - Cathy Clark presented her zoning report to the Town Board. She noted that when a code violation is brought to her attention she merely follows the necessary regulations that may require review from multiple agencies. She also noted quite an increase in permit activity which requires a lot of work. For 2006, 97 land use development permits were issued (65 in 2005); 18 site plan reviews (10 in 2005); 20 variances (7 in 2005); 12 subdivisions (6 in 2005); 20 wastewater permits (15 in 2005) and 1 wastewater variance each year. We note that is 64 more permits issued for a 62% increase. Supervisor Belden reported on current projects and applications with regard to stormwater and sedimentation.

Recreation/Promotion - Councilman LaPointe presented a request from Dave Dunn of the Chamber of Commerce for a tent for the Hague Winter Weekend. The Board wanted to rent before considering any purchase. They approved a motion to rent a 40x60 tent and the Highway Department will help put it up.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - The APA feels wetlands are involved in the Friends Point area and the Town has to wait for the APA determination in order to continue the application process.

Transfer and Recycling - Councilman Steitz will meet with Scott Olsen on the 19th to be introduced to the new Casella representative.

Under unfinished business, the Board:

1. Appointed Martin Fitzgerald, II as deputy of the Zoning Board of Appeals, John Brown as Clerk of the Planning Board and Rolly Allen as deputy of the Planning Board.
2. Agreed to readvertise for the vacancy on the ZBA.

Under new business, the Board:

1. Appointed a committee for the 9N walkway. The members will be Jim O'Toole, Art Hatfield, Rudy Meola, Graham Bailey, Mary Lou Doulin, Tom LaPointe & Dan Belden. Tom will set up and chair the first meeting and then the committee can pick its own chairman.
2. Discussed the positions of director of the museum and Town historian. The Hague Historical Society will take care of any museum position. The Supervisor has the authority to appoint an historian.
3. Heard that the grant was closed on Hague Brook with \$55,000 left in the grant.
4. Learned that they may need a private auditor to do the books if they want them audited since the State Audit and Control is focusing on auditing school districts. The last audit of the Town books was in 1996 so they may write to the State and try to get them to audit them.
5. Learned that the Supervisor has set up a new money market account for the Town with \$15,000 for the new sewer district. 10% has to be set aside in a capital fund. The capital fund has been paid back for sewer district #1.

For any additional information on any Town meeting, you can get a copy of the minutes from Town Clerk, Debbie Manning or go to <<http://townofhague.org/townofhague/Departments/Clerk/ClerkHome.htm>> then click on "Town Board Minutes".

Hague Memory Tree

Donations to the Hague Memory Tree have been made in memory of, or in honor of, the following people:

Ralph Aiken, Pauline Allison, Arthur Anisansel, Dorothy Anisansel, Laura Archibald, Les Archibald, Barnaby Family, Mary Beadnell, Esther Belden, Maud Belden, James Belden, Joan Belden, James Belden, Ester Belden, Morgan Belden, Gerald Belden, Charlie Belden, Maud Belden, Mabel Belden, Herb Belknap, Jack B. Bell, Leatha Bennett, Eli Benway, Victoria Benway, MC Beste, Winifred "Winnie" & William "Bill" Blair, James Bly, R.J. Bolton, Mame Bolton, Pauline Bolton, Doris Bolton, Jack Bolton, Frances Boomhower, John M. Braisted, James H. Braisted, Helen K. Braisted, Jody Braisted, Brink Family, Catherine Brock, Louis Brock, Charlotte Brock, Jim Broderick, Margaret Broderick, Arlene Brown, Jack Brown, Punky Brunzell, Bob Bryant, Jane Carpenter, John Carpenter, John Carpenter, Jr., Harold Carpenter, Richard S. Carpenter, Zella Carpenter, George N. Carter, Ruth Carter, Roland Carter, James Edsel Case, Edward Cassidy, Phyllis & Tony Ciarlo, John Costello, John M. Costello, John B. Costello, Lucille Costello, Irene Coveney, Edward Hubley Crabbs, Eliza Hamilton Crabbs, Edward Hamilton Crabbs, Bertha Reiff Crabbs, David Dent Crabbs, John David Crabbs, Bruce Craig, Alison Craig, Charles Cronin,

Roland Dame, Ryan D'Avignon, Steve Davis, Queenie Sanderson Davis, Herman Davis, Betty Decker, Clifford Decker, Emerson Decker, Mary Jane Decker, Wilbert Decker, Ervin DeGraff, Gene Denno, Marion Denno, Geneva Denno, Bob Denno, Westill Densmore, Louise Densmore, Elizabeth C. Densmore, Willard H. Devenger, Myrtle L. Devenger, Ezra Devenger, Frederick S. Dickson, III, Kenneth Drake, Thelma Drake, Bertha Dunsmore, Merritt Durgy, Samuel Eannace, Mildred Eddy, Dr. Fred Eggers, Charlotte Elliott, Elinor Engler, Dottie Engler, Howie Engler, John Fadding, Herman Fish, Floyd Fish, Charlie Fish, Helena Fish, Jane Fitzgerald, Jean Fitzgerald, Barb Fitzgerald, Eric Fitzgerald, Ginny Fitzgerald, Marilyn Frank, Dale Frasier, Mitchel Frasier, Clifford Frasier, Mary A. Frasier, Elaine Frasier, Chet Frasier, Slip Frasier, Geraldine Frasier, Carl Frasier, Veril Frasier, Samuel R. Frasier, Frasier Family, Donnie Galusha, James L. Galusha, Nellie Galusha, James I. Galusha, Helen Galusha, Denis J. Glennon, Dee Goodrich, Ronald K. Graser, William F. Grimm, Helen Haughey, William Hebbert, Dorothy Henry, Debbie Bly Hicks, Marion & George Hudler, HVFD,

Pat Inzero, Bessie & Louis Johnson, Curtis Jordon, Margaret Jordon, John J. Kennedy, Laird Family, Florence Lambert, Mary "Libby" Landers, John Landers, Jr., Rev. David Lawrence, Ruth Loustalot, Clifford Lund, Robert MacWilliams, Margaret MacWilliams, Eber Masten, Bessie Masten, Bill Mathews, Betty Mathews, Norma Megow, Ludolf J. Megow, Irene Megow, Janice Michael, Petey Michael, Aaron Middleton, Alvin Middleton, Beatrice Middleton, Emma Middleton, Leonard Middleton, Walter Middleton, Lee Miller, Madeline Minnow, Mike Minnow, Mabel Mitchell, Ursula Montbriand, J.B. Morse, Doris Morse, Robert Nelson, Bob Palandrani, PAPA, Grace Patchett, Nelson Patchett, Janet U. Perreault, Louise Barnett Prentice, Brian Price, H. Stewart Price, Grace Grimm Price, Katherine Mills Price, Lucio Ramagli, Connie Ramagli, Martha Kuck Reiff, Frank Rives, Melicent Rives, John Roos, David Rosbrook, Wesley Ross, Leroy Ryder, Daniel Sanderson, Sierra-Rose Santaniello, Theodore J. Santaniello, Camille Santaniello, George N. Savage, Erlo F. Schoder, Leroy Scott, Sarah Scott, Elizabeth C. Skahan, Elizabeth "Corbee" Skahan, Florence Smith, Shirley Smith, Johnny Smith, Bessie Smith, Fred Smith, Edith Smith, Mabel Barnett Smith, Richard Stormer, Sr., Bob Stout, Carl Sunderland, Frank Swinton, Trudeau Family, Mildred Tuminsky, Uncle Dale, Jay A. Urice, Sr., Marguerite N. Urice, George N. Urice, Jeane A. Urice, William & Anne Van Kleeck, Hatch Van Kleeck, Marion Van Kleeck, Hank Vickerson, Julie & John Vickerson, Pete Ward, Leonard Wells, Margaret Wells, Bob Wotton, Betty Wotton, Gabriel Wright, Grace Yacovone, Doug Zeyak, Sharon Zeyak

We do not remember days, we remember moments.

Cesare Pavese (1908 - 1950)

~SOUNDINGS~

CHRONICLE REACHES WORLDWIDE

BORN: A son, Andreson Drew Krauss, on December 11, 2006 to Jimmy and Kelly Krauss, Morristown New Jersey. Anderson's great grandmother, Helen Schoder, resides in Hague during the summer months. (Note his initials.)

BORN: A daughter, Madison Ruth Yohanan, on December 14, 2006 in Hoboken, New Jersey to Laura Lee and Tom Yohanan. Grandparents are longtime Silver Bay summer residents, Ralph and Julia Ketcham.

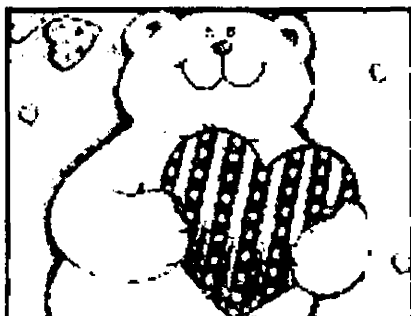
ENGAGED: Jennifer Behr and Jordan Wilson, both of Charlotte, VT. Jenny is a lifetime summer resident of Hague and is the daughter of Betsey Engler Barton of Hague and Chatham, NJ and Tom Behr of Millington, NJ and Felzen South, Nova Scotia. Jordan is the son of Jan Wilson of Essex Junction, VT and Gregg Wilson of Burlington, VT.

DIED: Patricia Morgan of Marblehead, MA on December 13, 2006.

DIED: Janice Peterson "Petey" Michael, of Savannah, Georgia and Friends Point, Hague on December 19, 2006. She is survived by her husband J. Graham Michael and three daughters, Deborah Graham of Seattle, WA; Lindell Donnelly of Sammamish, WA; and Susan Rogers of West Chester, PA along with 9 grandchildren. A memorial service will be announced later.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Ted Santaniello who graduated from SUNY Plattsburgh in December with a BA in Psychology and a minor in Personal Training. For the fall semester he was on the Dean's List with a 3.70 GPA. Ted is a certified personal trainer and has completed high school coaching courses. Ted is conducting Adult Fitness classes at the Lee Taft Speed Academy located in Queensbury at the Adirondack Sports Academy (the Dome).

CONGRATULATIONS: To Abby Gurney, whom we missed in our last report, for her achievement of First Honors in Grade Seven at the Ticonderoga Middle School.



We received a letter from Australia in our mail last week. It was from Ellen and Tom Whelan who summer in Hague and live in Healesville, Victoria, Australia the rest of the year. They enclosed our Hague Chronicle donor receipt and explained that it had been attached to their December issue. The receipt made it around the world to Australia and back. It's a small world, and you never know where you will find a neighbor!
John & Ann Barber

GOOD TO HEAR

And we have more reports of neighborly acts. Last month we reported showshoes missing from a Silver Bay property. It turns out that a concerned neighbor thought it was a misplaced UPS package and took it to the Silver Bay General Store for safekeeping.

In another incident, the Hague Chronicle publisher left her purse in a shopping cart in the Walmart parking lot. Judy went to pick it up the next day after a call from Walmart that a customer had turned it in. Everything was intact -including credit cards, cash, and cell phone.

Thank you to all these honest and helpful folks for their caring acts.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1890's there were several hotels operating in Hague and most of the guests arrived by steamboat.

Hague was known as "Rochester" during its first year as a town.

Portions of the towns of Hague and Bolton were taken to create the town of Horicon.

The Northern Lake George Resort was once called the Chief Uncas Inn.

Graphite was once a thriving settlement with its own schoolhouse, a social hall and stores.

In 1928 the first class graduated from Hague Central School.

These and many other facts will be part of the exhibits planned by the Hague Historical Society in the newly renovated museum which will open next spring. The Historical Society would like to hear from anyone with artifacts or pictures relating to the hotels, Graphite or schools. Contact Judy Stock at 543- 6517 or email <haguejudy@nycap.rr.com>.

WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

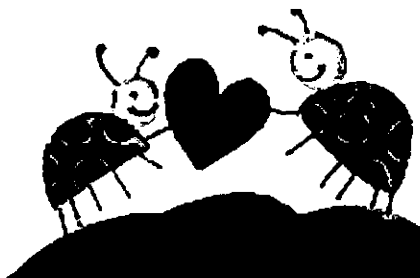
Dec 15 2006-January 13, 2007

We have a lot of weather notes to report this month. First, the December report. Then 2006 yearly statistics, and record breaking January 2007 temperatures. Lastly a preview of what forecasters see for the remaining winter.

The weather word for December 2006 was WARM; the warmest on record with an average temperature of 32.7 degrees. (7.6 degrees above normal). It was also the 2nd least snowy December on record. On Saturday, December 30, Hague received about 3" of snow but roads were only slippery in the morning until about noon when it cleared. New Year's Eve we saw freezing rain after midnight that iced over the roads, causing many cars to slide off roads. I think of December 2006 as a gift. I did not need my winter coat, scarf, hat, gloves or boots every time I went out the door! It was enjoyable to be outside- not usually the case in December!

Moving on to 2006 weather statistics, the Post Star described "the year's weather as WET and WARM; to be exact the 6th warmest year on record, with an average temperature of 47.1 degrees, according to North Country Weather Manager Jeremy Davis." The warmest recorded temperature for 2006 was 96 degrees on August 1. There were 48.81 inches of precipitation - the 2nd wettest year on record. (The wettest being 1983 with 54.94"). A total of 43 inches of snow fell in 2005-06 winter which was 22.2 inches below normal. The warm temperatures are attributed to a solid El Nino which is the warming of ocean waters off the South American Pacific coast. Usually El Nino peaks around Christmas time.

The first 13 days of January have continued the warming trend, peaking on Saturday, January 6 with record-breaking temperature of 66 degrees. The previous high temperature record for January 6 was 49 degrees set in 1949. The record high for the month of January was 64 degrees set in 1995. It was a great day to get outside and enjoy. I saw 2 men wheeling their golf bags on the turf at Ticonderoga Country Club. Heavy rains moved in late January 7 into Monday, January 8. Flood warnings were issued but none occurred in the Hague vicinity.




All this warm weather has many people wondering about global warming and about our Lake- Will it freeze this year? Check out <www.northqueensburyfire.org>. Look for Lake George Ice. They keep a record of icein/iceout dates back to 1907-08. In 1918-19 the Lake did not freeze. In 1920-21 it didn't freeze until Feb. 12th. In 1931-32 it froze Feb. 29th. Last year the Lake only partially froze on Feb. 18th.

If you are an ice fisherman, pray for that cold Arctic air and for daytime winds that will speed the transfer of the warmth stored in the lake into the air! As for me, I'm going outside to pick the pussywillows that popped out this week. Winter can come anytime it wants - I am ready. I have stored up the warmth!

HAGUE HAPPENINGS *by Stan*

LOCAL QUOTABLE NOTES

ROTARY of No. Lake George = Age **10!**
 Charter Date: JUNE 11, 1996.
 Founders: S. Burdick, R. Cole (Secy) and J. Crammond.
 A Service Club with 20+ plus
 Members from Hague, Bolton, Silver Bay and Ti.
 One of 1,208,562 ROTARY Clubs of the World.
 Latest Project: \$500. raised for "Tiny Tim."
 Currently Sponsor Int'l. Student from Brazil.
 President: Brian Sann, Silver Bay
 Meetings: Weekly, Tues. 7:30 am, S. Bay
 Guests Are Always Welcome ...

LARAC

The Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC) has announced that applications are available for vendors for the June and Fall festivals. They are also seeking artists and craftspeople who wish to sell their work in LARAC's year-round gift shop located at 7 Lapham Place in Glens Falls.

The next exhibit in the Lapham Gallery will be "Teachers are the Heart of the Arts" from January 26th through February 24th. On the LARAC website daily area events for workshops, classes, exhibitions and other programs are detailed and provide an excellent resource for activity planning.

For more information see <www.larac.org> or call 518-798-9122.

NATURE NEWS

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

Weeds in Winter

As a plant-lover, and one who loves to walk among them and experience their beauty, a person might think that I have a pretty bleak time of it in the dead of winter. But this is far from the truth as this seasonal cycle offers much to the eye. Trees, bare of their leafy cloaking, reveal their structure and design like pen-and-ink line drawings against the backdrop of white snow. A perfect opportunity to get to know the trees without having to depend on leaves for identification; we can learn to recognize them by their silhouettes against the sky; their bark patterns; and their branch and twig configurations. It really is not difficult at all and a terrific, user-friendly, book I can recommend is, "**The Tree Identification Book**" by George W.D. Symonds. It's a "photographic field trip designed for easy reference" and can be used any time of year because it includes not only tree shapes, bark, branches and twigs but also leaves, fruit, flowers, cones and nuts ~ anything you come across tree-wise you can find in there.

Trees are not the only pleasure to be found in winter walks. I find this a perfect time to find many plants by noticing their brown, dried stalks and flowers. There is even a good identification book on them as well, "**Weeds in Winter**" by Lauren Brown, with easy to recognize line drawings of the dried plants with close-up details of seeds, seed pods and dried flower tufts to help the process. I take note of dried Ostrich Fern fronds to mark the location where I'll find those fiddleheads to collect and eat in early Spring, or where the dead burdock stands to keep the dog from brushing up against it and avoiding a tedious time pulling burrs out of tangled, matted fur!

One of the neatest things to find are the goldenrod galls ~ mahogany colored, golf-ball sized growths on the stems of dried goldenrod plants. These are caused by the Goldenrod Gall Fly (*Eurostra solidaginis*) who has no impact whatsoever on humans, nor does it hurt the goldenrod plant (*Solidago canadensis*). The fly's entire life is centered on the goldenrod and mating, period. The Goldenrod Gall Fly, a small fly only 5 millimeters in length, mates in the spring. The female then injects her eggs into the stem of a goldenrod with her ovipositor (an egg-laying tube extending from her abdomen). About 10 days later, sometime in June, the fly larvae hatch and immediately begin to eat from inside the goldenrod stem.



The saliva of the larvae contains a chemical stimulant which causes starch to convert to sugar, resulting in an excess of food material in the plant, which in turn stimulates the plant cells to enlarge and multiply. The plant then grows abnormally, creating a golf-ball sized ball on the stem for the larvae to live in. When fall approaches, the goldenrod stem and gall become hard and brown, and each larva will dig an escape tunnel to leave the gall when it is time, but for now seals it over until it is ready to use in the spring.

During the winter, the larva will produce another chemical in its body similar to anti-freeze, to keep its body from freezing and dying in cold weather. Then in late spring, each larva enters the pupal stage and develops a balloon-like bladder that it uses to push through the end of the pupa case when it hatches into an adult. It then crawls to the end of the exit tunnel (the one it dug last fall) and by inflating and deflating the balloon bladder, breaks the seal and emerges into the world to begin the cycle again. Close inspection of a dried, brown gall will tell you if the tiny larvae is still there: if the seal is not broken then it is still inside growing; if a tiny hole is found, then the fly is gone and the home abandoned.

The Goldenrod Gall Fly has many predators that depend on it for food: parasitic wasps; several spiders; birds such as chickadees, goldfinches, wild turkeys and downy woodpeckers who will seek out the galls and break them to get to the tasty treat inside ~ the larvae. So, snow or no, I still find a walk outside exciting, refreshing and full of things to be curious about in the plant world

January - February 2007

January

| | | |
|-------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 23 | 1:30pm | Senior Citizens (p. 2) |
| 24 | 1pm | Extra Helping Distribution |
| 25 | 7pm | Zoning Board of Appeals |
| 29 - Feb. 3 | | Silver Bay Open House(p. 3) |
| 31 | 7pm | Ti Lecture Series (p. 2) |



February

| | | |
|--------|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 7pm | Planning Board |
| 13 | 6:30 pm | Town Board |
| 14 | | HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY |
| 17- 18 | | Hague Winter Weekend (see flyer) |
| 18 | | Happy 100th Birthday, Kate Hunter! |
| 19 | | President's Day |
| 22 | | Next Hague Chronicle mailed |

ONGOING MONTHLY MEETINGS & EVENTS

2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls
 1st Monday: Fire Department
 1st Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce
 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club
 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club

The Hancock House of the Ticonderoga Historical Society will be closed from January 10th to April 4th. Anyone wanting an appointment to do research may call 585-7868.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS
 Wednesday & Saturday: 9am - 5pm

MIND & BODY EXERCISES

Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15 pm at the Community Center
 T'ai Chi classes with Mae Pagan

Saturdays: Pilates Mat classes with Brenda-Jean Rider
 upstairs at the Hague Creek Cafe

COMING THIS SUMMER

June 30 - July 1: Swim Marathon on Lake George
 August 17 - 19: Bicentennial Celebration & HCS reunion

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT



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*Celebrating the 200th Anniversary
 of the Town of Hague*