



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HOLIDAY IN HAGUE

Holiday in Hague was held on December 5, 2015. Festivities included a tree decorating contest, a parade featuring dressed-up doggies and Santa and Mrs. Claus, and a Town Christmas party held at the Community Center. Silver Bay Association Leaders Club made crafts with the children, cookies and punch were served and there was a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The festivities continued that night with a gathering at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) where prizes were awarded for the best trees. Trees were divided into two categories, traditional and non-traditional. Third place in traditional went to Bobbie Jean Fish for the Santa Hat tree, second was Silver Bay Association's tree decorated with birdseed and peanut butter pinecones, and first place was awarded to Mary Keefe, Susan Cacici and Sandy Rypkema, whose tree was decorated with beautiful papier-mache owls.

In the non-traditional group, third place went to Rich Stout (whose woodwork trees are always gorgeous), second place was awarded to the HVFD who had Santa extinguishing a burning tree, and first place was given to a tree made of oak by Mike Cherubini and Bill Gourley. All the trees were beautifully decorated this year and a lot of thought went into their designs.

*Photos courtesy of
Judy Gourley*



Prizes were also given for the best dressed doggies. Third place was given to Sandy Rypkema and Olive, second place was Cathy Clark and Misha, and first place was awarded to Katy Wells and Hans.
... Meg Haskell

SENIOR NEWS

The Seniors celebrated another year of wonderful memories at their Christmas party on December 1, 2016. As always, we had good food, good company and nice gifts won by those who were present. Ida Jordan was the lucky winner of the 50/50 and the whole table where she was sitting shared in her luck as every one of them won a gift - a first for that to happen.

To kick off the new year, our first event will be game night. If you haven't signed up and would like to come on out and join in on the fun, call Pat Hintze (543-6502) or Maureen Cherubini (543-6463) for the location, date and time.

On January 14, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the Community Center we plan to have an International Dinner where everyone can bring a favorite ethnic food to share with the group. There will be prizes for the best dishes as long as we seniors can remember to give them out (since we still have the gifts from the Picnic because we forgot to do it then).

We will be heading out to Adirondack Lanes in Ticonderoga to Bowl on January 22, 2016 at noon where we bowl two games and then the Club pays for the Pizza and Soda. Come on out and enjoy a few laughs with us.

The regular Senior Club meeting will be held at the Community Center on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. We will install the officers for the year and collect this years dues of \$5. We will also have guest speakers Jan and Bob Whitaker who will talk to us about the free AARP Tax Return Program.

We have some exciting things planned for 2016 and look forward to you all joining us. The Senior Club is open to all residents fifty years of age and over. ...Pat Hintze

TI CHAMBER SEEKS CALENDAR DATES

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) is continually working to improve its community calendar of events to remain the central calendar for the area. TACC is looking for area businesses, organizations, and committees to share their yearly calendars and upcoming special events. The TACC calendar will serve as the central location for the Chamber, community members, and visitors to find events within the area and to answer event questions. It will also be a referencing tool to be used when planning future events in the Ticonderoga area (including Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Hague, Moriah, and Putnam).

To contact TACC, call 518-585-6619 or visit their website at <www.ticonderogany.com>.

SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Sal Santaniello presented the annual plaque for the Hague Chamber of Commerce Events Committee selection for Senior of the Year during the Senior Club Christmas party. This year the award went to the President of the Hague Senior Club, Pat Hintze.



Pat has been involved with many organizations and events since she and her husband Ron became full-time residents of Hague. In addition to the Senior Club, Pat organized the Yada-Yada Bible Study Group of the Hague Baptist Church, has worked on many Chamber and Town events, is a member of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department and is a volunteer with *The Hague Chronicle*.

Pat was very moved by the honor and happy to receive it, but she noted "I am sad because Ron isn't able to be here to share in the joy. Ron is the one who supports me, loves me and shares me with you all so I can volunteer. Thanks and love to you, Ron."

ANNUAL CLOSING OF FRIENDS POINT ROADS

Kathe Allen, President of the Friends Point Association, has announced the annual closing of the private roads in Friends Point. The roads will be closed for the 24-hour period from 12:01 am on Friday, January 1, 2016 to 12:01 am on Saturday, January 2, 2016.

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out by volunteers on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is the previous Wednesday. Please send news or address corrections to the Publisher, Judy Stock at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label for due date) tax deductible contribution, made out to **The Hague Chronicle** to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
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Editor/Publisher: Judy Stock (518-543-6517)
Editorial Staff: Ginger Kuenzel, Pat McDonough
Layout Editor: Jim Henderson

Treasurer: Bob Whitaker
Database Manager: Jan Whitaker

PARTIAL 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 exemptions:

- ◆ Senior Citizens' exemption: primary residence homeowners over age 65 with the following household income ceilings for the listed taxing jurisdictions:

County	\$32,399 (Includes sliding scale)
Town	\$23,700 (Includes sliding scale)
School	\$30,399 (Includes sliding scale)

This exemption must be renewed each year. Renewal forms will be sent in late December to those who had this exemption last year.

- ◆ Enhanced STAR exemption: primary residence homeowners over age 65 with household income less than \$84,550. This exemption must be renewed each year unless an Optional Verification form is submitted. Renewal forms will be sent in late December to those who had this exemption last year.
- ◆ Basic STAR exemption: all primary residence homeowners with annual income below \$500,000. This exemption does not have to be renewed each year, once the first application is approved.
- ◆ Veterans' exemption: 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 am to 3 pm. The filing deadline is March 1, 2016.

SILVER BAY WINS REUNION AWARD

Silver Bay YMCA has been named Best Venue for a Reunion by Unique Venues Magazine for 2015. This is the second year that Silver Bay has been honored in this category, bringing home the award in 2014 as well. Silver Bay was awarded the recognition not only because of the personalized attention group planners received, but due to the wide variety of inter-generational programs offered and the ability to provide special functions such as family dinners and events.

“We are very excited about winning this recognition again this year” said Liz Hinck, Marketing and Communications Director for Silver Bay. “Family reunions are our specialty and it feels wonderful to be recognized for the effort we put into ensuring that each gathering is able to put their personal stamp on their reunion. We help build meaningful, lifelong family memories here at Silver Bay.”

This recognition comes at the end of what has been a remarkable year for Silver Bay. Hinck added, “In June we were named Best Resort in the Adirondack Life Readers’ Poll and were recognized as Special Distinguished Business of the Year by the Adirondack Business Council of the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce.”

BESTE AWARDS PRESENTATION ON THE MOVE

The Beste Scholarship Awards Presentation is moving to January! Our friends at the Silver Bay Association have generously offered to host a Beste benefit buffet on Saturday, January 16, 2016 (Martin Luther King holiday weekend) at their campus dining room from 5:30 - 7 pm, during which the awards ceremony will also take place. Entry fee for the buffet will be \$10, and \$5 of this will be donated to the scholarship fund. There will also be a 50/50 raffle that evening and the Northern Lake George Rotary Club is planning to have their silent auction running during the buffet. So save the date, come and join us for a great meal for a good cause, and find out who our latest scholarship recipients will be.

At their annual meeting in April 2015, the Beste Steering Committee voted to raise the full-time scholarship award to \$350 and part-time awards to \$175 per student. 2016 marks 28 years of stewardship of the Beste Fund, which includes awarding a total of nearly \$40,000 to well over 100 local students. As many of you know, the Beste Scholarship is given to Hague students who have graduated from Ticonderoga High School and have successfully completed their first semester of higher education/vocational school, and who are registered for a second semester. Present Steering Committee members include Sal and Kathy Santaniello, Tom James, Dan Belden, Donna Frasier and Jill Stull, who meet annually to review the status of the program and make any changes if necessary.

The following students received awards in 2015: Jeanette Coon, daughter of Alicia and Eric Coon, who is attending Adirondack Community College, majoring in criminal justice; Ty Denno, son of Melanie Fish, who is attending SUNY Oneonta, majoring in statistics; and Sean Lawrie, son of Lara Smith, who is attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, majoring in aerospace engineering and who is also in ROTC. We wish all our scholarship recipients all the best in their future endeavors.

The Steering Committee thanks all of you who have generously contributed to this program over the years, and hopes you will continue your support. Donation checks may be made out to the “Beste Scholarship Fund” and mailed to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836-0509. We hope to see you in January at the Buffet/Awards Ceremony!

... Kathy Santaniello

“THINK LOCAL” CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) is thrilled to announce the launch of their “Think Local” campaign. By supporting local businesses and organizations you help boost, build, maintain and strengthen your community. The money you spend locally recirculates in your community.

For more information on the “Think Local” Campaign, a Ticonderoga Area business directory, calendar of events, or general area information contact the Chamber by email at <chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com> or visit their office located at 94 Montcalm Street, Suite 1 in Ticonderoga.

TOWN BOARD MEETING – 12/8/2015

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Martin Fitzgerald II, Ginger Kuenzel, Rudy Meola and Steve Ramant were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Rose Serdinsky and Ron Hintze.

Under the committee reports:

Assessor & Justice - Councilman Meola noted that the Assessor is now working two days per week and thanked G. Kuenzel for her leadership in this matter.

Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement - Councilman Fitzgerald reported that the Community Center is changing to a propane hot water boiler. He said it would only take about a day to change over. The Board approved \$19,451 to furnish and install the new boiler as an emergency expenditure in the 2015 budget.

The boiler at the Dodd Hill sewer plant has a failed pressure valve so water in the boiler condensed and damaged it. The Board approved \$6,758 to replace the boiler as another emergency expenditure in the 2015 budget.

Councilman Fitzgerald reported that the deck and railings will be replaced at the Visitor Center as they were found to be rotting. The work was already approved under a previous maintenance motion.

Highway - Superintendent of Highways Don Smith noted that they will use a box to fill up with old tires so they don't have to take them up to the transfer station. He also said, "We are just cleaning the ditches out and waiting for the white stuff." Smith reported that the new truck will be here next Tuesday and the camera and data sensors provided by the FUND will be included.

Sewer Districts #1 & # 2 - Supervisor Frasier said they should hear about grants on Thursday. On Overbrook Lane they have dug holes to test the soils and found them ok in case they need to dig in the future. Work is being done on the insulation of manholes.

Town Park & Beautification - Supervisor Frasier thanked Michele Gautreau and Connie Swinton for helping with the decorations inside the Community Center. She also thanked the Carillon Garden Club for the baskets they have done on the bridge.

Frasier noted that they have received the survey report and asked Board members to read it and get comments back to her. The consultant will report next month. She noted that several people mentioned wanting a laundromat.

Frasier noted that the County will pay \$1,200 to any town with a fuel farm.

In other business:

The Board set Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at 4 pm for the end-of-the-year Town Board meeting and Monday, January 4, 2016 at 6 pm for the Organizational meeting.

The last payment for 2015 has been made to the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. Part of the agreement was to have a financial statement submitted to the Town on a quarterly basis. Supervisor Frasier stated she would like to have a financial statement in January. M. Fitzgerald said the HVFD could have it done by February.

Councilwoman Kuenzel suggested they put together a brief overview of what the Town Board has done during 2015. Supervisor Frasier said she has that done and will present it at the final meeting. Kuenzel then suggested that each Board member come with goals for 2016, which Supervisor Frasier said they can all be thinking about.

The Board authorized the Supervisor to sign a vaccination and immunization agreement with Hudson Headwaters Health Network for the necessary vaccinations for the Waste Water Treatment Plant personnel.

The Board authorized the Supervisor to sign the 2016 Senior Transport Agreement to provide transportation to Seniors on every second Monday for a possible cost of \$2,880 if done all year. If only one person is signed up, the trip will be cancelled.

The Board approved advertising for the opening on the Planning Board due to resignation of Mike Cherubini who has been elected to the Town Board.

Councilwoman Kuenzel presented a proposal from Mohawk Valley GIS to redesign the Town website for \$3,475 plus \$400 annually for maintenance and upgrades to software. In the discussion that followed, Councilman Ramant felt it was not the best time to do this because they may have to upgrade the phone system and the website mostly helps businesses. Councilwoman Kuenzel noted that the money is already in the 2016 budget and it is not designed to help businesses. She also said that it is to upgrade the system in order for residents and visitors to get information about the Town. She went on to say that it would improve access on mobile devices and make the Town presence on the web look better. Councilman Fitzgerald felt the Board should wait and see what the Chamber and Fire Department want to do with it since he wants to see all organizations connected with one person overseeing it. The Board tabled the proposal and Mike Cherubini and Janet Hanna volunteered to work on a committee to further study the issue with Councilwoman Kuenzel.

The Board approved amending the 2015 Capital Fund Budget to close the Capital Fund Streetscape account and transfer the monies to the Capital Fund Improvement account.

The Board approved resolutions to allow the Supervisor to sign the Lake George Basin Salt Initiative Municipal Letter of Agreement and to sign an agreement with Attorney Robert Hafner for \$195 per hour to be able to use him when needed.

Councilwoman Kuenzel reported that National Grid is replacing the remaining streetlights.

Supervisor Frasier thanked everyone who participated in Christmas in Hague.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 11/19/15

Chairman Robert Goetsch, Jon Hanna, Ray Snyder, Chris Navitsky and Maureen Cherubini were present. Lindsay Mydlarz and Linda Mury were absent.

CORBO (26.6-1-8) 36 Forest Bay Rd N (TRIR)

The violation is still in place, therefore the new application was not considered. The owner had until November 28, 2015 to comply. The entire structure and all bolts must be removed.

DOUGHERTY (43.13-1-36) 4 Cranberry Ln. (TRI)

The owners would like to demolish the existing 679 sq. ft. house and build a new 1807 sq. ft. house. All setbacks for the proposed new house will be improved, but the property will still be nonconforming.

The increase of more than 25% to a legal nonconforming structure requires a variance. A public hearing will be held on December 17, 2015 at 7 pm.

PLANNING BOARD - 12/3/2015

Deputy Chairman Mike Cherubini and Board members Dan Belden, Martin Fitzgerald, Bob Whitaker, Pam Peterson and Judy Gourley were present. Chairman Dick Frasier was absent.

SCHROON LAKE MARINA (25.4-1-37) Decker Hill Road (SCUZ/OCI)

The owners would like to subdivide an 18.50 acre lot. The Planning Board earlier approved a four-lot subdivision and now they want a three-lot subdivision. One lot of 9.07 acres will remain in the current owner's name and be used commercially. A second lot may be commercial, which would be allowable under a Type 1 site plan review. The third lot may remain residential. The boundary lines will be marked and Board members may visit the site on their own. A public hearing was set for January 7, 2016 at the next Planning Board meeting.

DOUGHERTY (43.13-1-36) 4 Cranberry Lane (TRI)

The proposed new house will be similar to several others in the Cape Cod neighborhood. Although the setbacks will be improved, they still do not conform to the Town of Hague code. The Planning Board voted to send a recommendation to the Zoning Board for approval of the variance.

JOHNSON (RICHARDS) (12.18-1-16) Lakeshore Dr. (TR-1)

The prospective owner, Chris Richards, is applying for preapproval to construct a three - bedroom house on a vacant lot. The prospective owners are proposing to replace the current waterfront building with a new structure. The current structure has a toilet and sink in it and they are asking for the same in the proposed new structure. Approval is needed for new construction within 100 feet of the Lake and a toilet and a sink in an accessory structure.

BALOUCH (43.5-1-2.1) 9809 Graphite Mtn. Rd. (Hamlet)

The applicant would like to operate a farm stand with occasional retail goods.

The Planning Board had previously approved allowing the use of a home occupation which was a mini-farm with "pick your own" salad. However, the applicant added other items for sale including baked goods, honey, t-shirts, etc. There were also chickens on the property which have since been removed. The Board voted to allow the original approval of a seasonal mini-farm but no additional approval was granted for anything else.

In other business, Mike Cherubini thanked everyone on the Board for their friendship and goodwill and noted they had all worked through any problems. Mike is resigning from the Planning Board as required in order to take his seat on the Hague Town Board as a recently-elected new member.

THANKS FROM DEBBIE MANNING

It is hard to believe that I have been in the position of Town Clerk for 20 years. I wish to thank everyone for all of your support!

PROGRAMS RETURN TO FORT TICONDEROGA



Fort Ticonderoga's "Fort Fever Series" returns this winter and early spring with monthly programs January through April 2016. Programs take place on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm in the Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center. The cost for each program is \$10 per person and will be collected at the door; free for Members of Fort Ticonderoga.

The first in the series is on January 10, 2016, and is entitled "Going Dutch: The Material Culture of America's Unlikely Ally." Join Matthew Keagle, Curator of Collections, and explore the evidence of Dutch military contributions to the conflicts of the 18th century from Fort Ticonderoga's collections. Examine how, without sending troops to America, the Dutch supported the French and Indian War and the American Revolution.

You can learn more about all of the Fort's winter programs by visiting its website <www.fortticonderoga.org> and clicking on "Calendar" at the top of the page. Some programs require advance registration.

HAGUE MEMORY TREE



Each year, Diane Trudeau and Bertha Dunsmore continue the tradition of putting up the Hague Memory Tree at the Community Center. The tradition was started by Diane's mother, Imogene Frasier, in memory of her son, Dale (Diane's brother). All proceeds go to the HVFD and the names of all those deceased in whose memory donations are given will be published in the January issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

To include someone on the Memory Tree, please send \$1 donation per name. Checks should be made payable to the Hague Chamber of Commerce BUT mailed to Town of Hague Memory Tree, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. Donations can also be given directly to Diane or Bertha at the Community Center.

~SOUNDINGS~

DIED: Ronald F. Hintze, 72, of Hague, on December 6, 2015, at Glens Falls Hospital.

Ronald was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served during the Vietnam War.

Ronald loved the beauty of Lake George and the Adirondacks and became a permanent resident of Hague in 2008, moving from Weehawken, NJ. He was a member of Hague Senior Citizens Club and served as a trustee for two years. His greatest enjoyment was his family and especially spending time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Guerrieri-Hintze; his two children, Matthew Hintze and his wife, Debbie Siracuse, of Leonia, NJ and Tara Lawlor and her husband, John, of Nutley, NJ; his four grandchildren, Ava Hintze, James Hintze, Aubrey Lawlor and Olivia Lawlor; his brother, Frederick R. (Ricky) Hintze of Weehawken, NJ; and his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Mike and Maureen Cherubini, Richard and Patricia Guerrieri and Maryann Guerrieri. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles and cousins and friends.

FESTIVAL GUILD PLAYERS RECEIVE GRANTS

The Festival Guild Players have received funding that has allowed the group to purchase light-weight/portable sound and lighting equipment for their theatrical productions.

The Glenn and Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation, "dedicated to improving the quality of life for year-round residents of the Adirondack Park" and the Charles R. Wood foundation have provided grants for the purchase of the equipment. Vincent Smith, director of The Players said, "We are extremely grateful for these grants since the equipment we purchased is critical to our ability to stage productions. We were starting from scratch with no lighting and inadequate sound equipment."

The Players are currently in the final stages of their modern version of *A Christmas Carol*. It is a production with 36 cast members and a 16 member production crew. The members come from Hague, Silver Bay, Ticonderoga, Putnam and Crown Point. All members of the cast/crew are thrilled to be part of the updated version of *A Christmas Carol* written and directed by Vincent Smith. The venue Vincent selected for the play is the Ticonderoga Community Building because the "theater" is a perfect place for a small, intimate production.

The play is scheduled for December 17, 18, and 19, 2015 at 7 pm and December 20, 2015 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults. Children who are accompanied by an adult are free. Tickets can be purchased at Libby's Bakery Café in Ticonderoga or by calling Sue at 585-6280. Seating is limited so tickets should be purchased early.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Hague Baptist Church Candlelight "Christmas Eve" Services will be held at 4:30 and 6 pm on Tuesday, December 22, 2015. We hope this time will allow people to celebrate with us at church, and still have time to travel so families can be together for Christmas. ... Wini Conant

TWELFTH NIGHT CONCERT

The Twelfth Night Concert, a community effort with area churches and individuals providing music and song, and organized by the Ticonderoga Festival Guild, is a lovely way to end the Christmas Season. The concert is hosted by a different church each year. This year it will be held on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 7 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Ticonderoga.

The free concert will consist of anthems, songs and instrumentals performed by area churches as well as an audience "sing along" of well-known carols. All are welcome to attend the concert as well as a simple reception following the performance in the church's Fellowship Hall.

NCCC COURSES OFFERED

North Country Community College (NCCC) has scheduled four courses (Accounting I, Accounting II, Macroeconomics, and Microeconomics) on its Ticonderoga campus for 2016. All are designed to be part of the State University of New York (SUNY) seamless transfer path for students who plan to transfer to SUNY four-year schools for business or accounting. NCCC hopes the offerings will appeal to business community members in the Ticonderoga region as well.

Further information about all of NCCC's spring course offerings and admission to the college can be found on the college's website <www.nccc.edu> or by calling 888-TRY-NCCC.

T'AI CHI CLASSES CONTINUE

Mae Pagan of Hague is continuing her series of T'ai Chi classes at the Black Watch Library in Ticonderoga. The Library charges a minimal fee. The classes are held on Thursdays from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm.

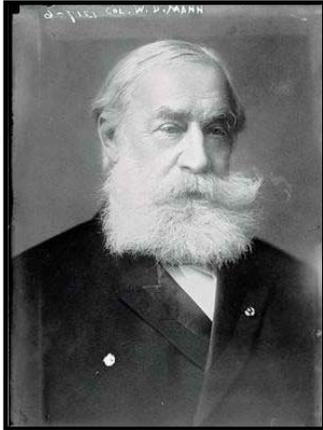


HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society issues a newsletter twice a year and our December edition will be in the mail to members before the end of the year. Not a member yet? Why not take a look at our newsletter online at <haguehistoricalsociety.org> and then join! Our thanks go out to all those who support us and our efforts to research and share Hague's history with the public. ... Pat McDonough



**A Villain in Sheep's Clothing:
William d'Alton Mann (1839-1920)**



What a distinguished look this fellow has . . . almost looks like he could play Santa Claus in a local production of "Twas the Night before Christmas". But not quite so. In reality this white-bearded fellow is Colonel William D'Alton Mann, a figure often mentioned in Hague history because of his involvement with the Hague Regattas and the infamous Lake George Monster prank initiated by Harry W. Watrous.

Many have written of the good Colonel, including Christine Ianson, who wrote a profile of him for Warren County's Bicentennial and Ursula Montbriand, who wrote a two-installment piece for our own *The Hague Chronicle* in April and May 1989. He came to mind for me recently when I was reading a biography of Isabella Stewart Gardner of the Gardner Museum in Boston. The book, "Mrs. Jack", was a detailed look at Mrs. Gardner's personal life as well as her years of collecting art for her distinctive Museum. "Mrs. Jack" mentioned often that Isabella had been the frequent subject of *Town Topics*.

Town Topics, a society gossip magazine, had been published by Colonel Mann's brother, E. D. Mann, who had disappeared in 1891 after a conviction for obscenity. The publication, being without a leader, now fell into the hands of the Colonel who took it to new frontiers in the field of gossip and society news.

Town Topics, it turns out, was quite a bit more than a gossip rag. It was known among the socially elite of the time that true or not, stories of their homes, families, romances, etc. would find their way into Mann's *Topics*. His column was known as "Saunterings" and saunter it did in the back halls of the rich and famous. Often, his sources, compensated by him, were the household staff along Fifth Avenue and its environs. As Mark Caldwell wrote in "A Short History of Rudeness", "The gossip was personal, vicious, salacious. But the sophistication with which Mann served it up was a world above that of latter-day tabloids like the *National Enquirer* or the *Globe*. Mann himself rewrote and edited the magazine's opening "Saunterings" fea-

ture. The prose was refined, funny, elegant, and razor-sharp, a clear precursor of *The New Yorker's* "Talk of the Town" in its soigne' tone, but with a hidden payload of brutal satire underneath the polish. As the Saunterer, Mann became a celebrity in his own right, and apparently an intimate of the very elite he took delight in savaging."

Gossip, of course, is enjoyed by most and that would be fine, but the good Colonel was out for a bit more than that. When he got hold of a juicy bit, he would offer the subject of the gossip the possibility of withholding publication – for a price! In 1965 Andy Logan wrote for *The New Yorker*, "The victims, which included the names of Vanderbilts, Astors, and other prominent New Yorkers, were shown galley proofs of paragraphs *Town Topics* intended to run unless they forked over sums amounting to thousands of dollars in payment for flattering writeups in the projected publication." The targets of this literary blackmail were encouraged to pay cash, buy ads in the magazine or purchase worthless stock in "Town Topics."

It would seem that no one was exempt from the Saunterer's pen. Alice Roosevelt ((1884-1980), the often outrageously behaved daughter of then President Theodore Roosevelt (presidency from 1901 to 1909), was a frequent subject in Mann's "Saunterings" column. Though some tried, including Edwin Post, a Wall Street stockbroker and husband of Emily Post, none were ever able to have him convicted of either libel or perjury. He was shrewd. He published nameless accounts of titillating incidents in "Saunterings" and then named that society icon in another part of the magazine. Of course, the gentry soon figured out who the unnamed were!



A villain in sheep's clothing is what he was; as Caldwell wrote, "Mann was everything turn-of-the-century Americans most admired: Civil War hero, entrepreneur, business tycoon, millionaire, inventor, editor, publisher. He presided daily over his own table at Delmonico's, the grand restaurant at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 26th Street. Like most real and would-be metropolitan aristocrats, he kept several residences—a Manhattan brownstone, a country house in Morristown, and a private island retreat on Lake George in the Adirondacks, where he dispensed seigniorial hospitality to friends and employees alike. He was a family man, with a faithful, dowdy wife and a daughter on whom he doted." In fact, his home on Waltonian Island in Lake George was called "Saunterers Rest" and his launch bore the name "The Saunterer". Perhaps his quarters in Hague-on-Lake George provided a soothing environment free from his tumultuous existence in Manhattan. . . . Pat McDonough

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

-8-

HAGUE CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 22 4:30 pm/6 pm Services at the Baptist Church
- 23 1:05 pm Early dismissals begin for Ticonderoga schools.
- 25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS**
- 30 4 pm End-of-Year Town Board meeting

JANUARY

- 1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR**
(Friend's Point Road Closed)
- 4 6 pm Town Board organizational meeting
- 12 6 pm Town Board regular meeting
- 13 News deadline for January Issue
- 18 Martin Luther King holiday
- 20 *The Hague Chronicle* is mailed out (online earlier)

ONGOING EVENTS

- 1st Monday: **Fire Department** (7 pm)
- 2nd Monday: **Senior Bus to Glens Falls** (8:30 am)
- Every Tuesday: **Champlain Chorale** (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: **Ticonderoga School Board** (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: **Fish & Game Club** (7 pm)
- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays: **Ti'Coustics** (7 pm)
- 4th Wednesday: **Extra Helpings Distribution** (noon)
- 3rd Thursday: **Carillon Garden Club** (10 am)
- Every Tuesday: **Rotary Club** (7:30 am)
- Every Thursday: **Kiwanis** (12 pm)
- 1st Friday: **Men's Prayer Breakfast** (7:30 am)

TRANSFER STATION HOURS
September 2 thru June 30
Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday: CLOSED