LOOKING BACK

by HHS Board Members Shelly Gautreau and Nancy Young

July 1973 – Hague Chronicle Newsletter

"THE CAVEDWELLERS"

Sponsored by Burgey's Beachside Hotel, the Hague Cavedwellers are staging their first invitational basketball tournament at the Hague School on April 3-4-7 and 8. Eight teams from the area have been invited to participate. Proceeds will go to the Hague Scholarship Fund.

All of the Cavedwellers either live or work in Hague and most of them played on Hague highschool teams in years gone by. Members of the team are: Daniel Belden, who is also the manager, Terry Bianchini, Loring Carpenter, Ray Bevins, Douglas Cash, Pete Plass, Al Perkins, Dave May, Mike Laundree, Phil Frasier, Al Jordon and Tom Stull.

During the season, the team played on the Tri-County (Warren, Essex and Hamilton) League. Hague won the league championship with a 121-111 overtime win over Speculator on March 4. The contest was forced into overtime when Phil Frasier scored with five seconds to play. In overtime, Hague overscored its opponent 18 to 8. After the season ended, the first four teams played a round-robin tournament. Hague won the first game, beating Speculator and in the finals beat Newcomb in a game played in (not legible in preserved Chronicle.)

The Cavedwellers also played in the Adirondack League with Crown Point, Glens Falls, Schroon Lake, Queensbury, (*)ville and Lake George. They finished fourth. The team also played in the Knights of Columbus tournament at Glens Falls and in the Crown Point invitational tournament.

The team does a good job to publicize our town and should have your support.

August 2025 – 53 Years Later

Try as we might, tracking down members of the Cavedwellers team has been very challenging. Looking back in New York archival newspapers did not help at all. One past member, Dave May, who is still with us, gave us a bit of information. He remembers playing three to four years, but after two years, two members, Al Perkins and Al Jordon, left to join the Dock and Dine team. They were replaced with youngsters whom Dave can't remember. He told of Charley Burgey providing bats, balls, and beer. The uniforms were t-shirts that the members had to supply. Dave gave kudos to Dan Belden and Pete Plass, saying Pete was a great player.

At some point, another team sponsored by Burgey's was called the Hague Nighthawks. The member we contacted was Jim Braisted. He only remembers two other members of the Nighthawks: Dan Belden and Al Jordon.

Another team, softball, which one of us writers was on, was the Cave Girls. I can only remember Deb Denno, Mary Braisted, Gladys Fuller, and myself as members. Verne Rockwell was our coach, and a great one at that. We even played against the Hague High School boys and only lost by one point! After our games, a stop at the Cave garnered free beer.

We would love any information about these or any other Hague teams. This information should be part of the history of Hague, and perhaps many humorous tales could be included in a future issue. Please contact either writer with any information you would like to share. And do visit the Hague Museum to enjoy the Cave Exhibit.

TICONDEROGA AREA FARMERS MARKET

The 2025 Ticonderoga Area Farmers Market will run through **September 6th** in Downtown Ticonderoga on **Saturdays from 9 am to noon**. It takes place behind Arrow Bank, just off Montcalm Street at the intersection of McCormick Street and Champlain Avenue. There are two parking areas located near the market.

Several special events remain for the 2025 season, including the following:

- **August 9th:** Local Artisans & Authors Day
- **August 23rd:** Community Non-Profit Day
- **September 6th:** History Speaks Event

If you are interested in participating in one of these events, contact the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC).

In addition to the events planned, free local food activity guides for kids provided by Adirondack Harvest and free weekly recipes from the TACC will be available.

A 50/50 raffle will also take place all season to support the market activities, events, music, etc.

HELP STOP INVASIVES BEFORE THEY START

The Lake George Association (LGA) is calling on the community to take part in its annual Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring Weekend, which is taking place **Friday, August 8 through Sunday, August 10, 2025.** This community science initiative invites participants of all ages to help scan Lake George for early signs of aquatic invasive species.

Whether residents, seasonal visitors, or lake enthusiasts, volunteers are encouraged to search for potential threats at any location on or around the lake. The LGA will provide training, identification materials, and ongoing staff support to ensure participants are equipped for the task.

By joining this effort, community members play a direct role in protecting the lake's natural ecosystem. Early detection is key to preventing the spread of invasive species, and local involvement is critical to preserving the health of Lake George.

For more information, visit www.lakegeorgeassociation.org .