

# The Preservationist

The Schroon - North Hudson Historical Society Newsletter  
first quarter edition January, 2024

## A BOGLE FAMILY LEGACY

by Laura Dewey

After two years of continuous research and hard work, the Schroon - North Hudson Historical Society has just been notified that the William G. Pomeroy Foundation has approved our application for an historic marker honoring Augustus Bogle, his son Charles H., and grandson Charles A. for the important roles they played in the history of Schroon Lake from the 1870s through the 1940s.



Augustus Bogle

Beginning in 1874 with the purchase of the Mill Lot on what is now Dock Street, Augustus and his partner Jonathan Brackett went into the boat livery business. Scores of rowboats lined the shore for use by tourists who had begun to

come to Schroon Lake after the arrival of the first steamboats on the lake in 1870.

Augustus and his sons continued and expanded the business after Brackett died in 1884, obtaining sole possession of the property in 1888.

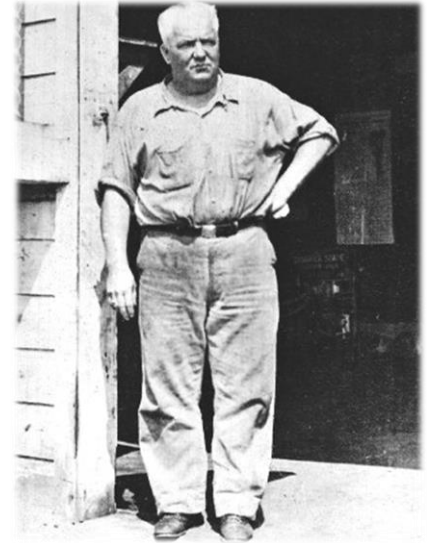
The Bogles owned the Marietta and Gypsy, a steam launch used to transport passengers around the lake. They were hired to paint and repair boats for others and, with their horses, drew them out of the water at the end of the season. During the winter months, Charles H. harvested ice from the lake "to fill every ice house he could find."

The times were changing and the Bogle family business adapted to meet the needs of townspeople and visitors alike.



Charles A. Bogle

The cellar foundation for the Bogle Hotel was dug in 1903 by Charles H. a year after the death of his father Augustus. It remained in the Bogle family until 1941 when it was sold to Silberts.  
Charles H. Bogle



Charles H. Bogle

The current boathouse was built by the Bogles between 1895 and 1906. By 1910 it became Bogle's Garage and Auto Livery. The seven-seater Packard roadster purchased by Charles and his son Charles A. is reported to have been the first automobile in Schroon Lake. After much debate, in 1975 the Town of Schroon bought p2

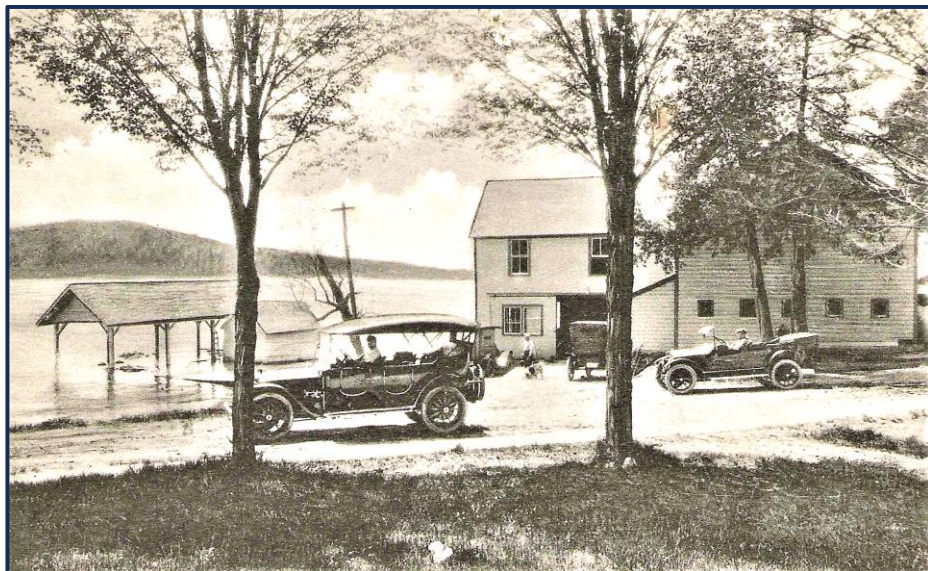
A feature by Loris Clark



Loris writes... "My entry into the SNHHS began in October, 2005 when I attended a fund raising supper at the Schroon Lake Fish and Game Club to support the Boy Scouts. I was approached by Betty Osolin who was at that time the President of the SNHHS. Betty and I talked for a while and she eventually proposed that, with my extensive history in the town, I should consider assuming the Presidency of the organization until 2022.

After considering Betty's proposal, I fell in love with the notion and accepted the position, becoming the new President in 2006. I held that position for sixteen years until 2022. The rewards have been great and the Museum has received a lot of support from the Town, its people and surrounding municipalities.

My husband, Leo Clark, was born and raised in Schroon Lake and helped me with his knowledge as well as his skills in constructing exhibits. His support and partnership were irreplaceable!" p3



### Bogle Garage and Auto Livery Ca. 1915

what had been the Bogle property with one stipulation: *The boathouse must be preserved.* It soon became The Boathouse Theater, a music and cultural venue that endures today.

With the placement of this historical marker, we honor generations of the Bogle family - truly hardworking, forward-thinking entrepreneurs whose legacy endures in the structure of the iconic Bogle Boathouse. Today it remains a hub of activity, anchoring the town to its heritage.

### Thank You...

Barbara Connor    Brenda Borquist  
Loris Clark        Laura Dewey

...for all your hard work and dedication on this project



**Leo Clark** for all his enthusiastic support of the SNHHS and his museum friends over the years!

**Brenda Borquist** for organizing the season-ending Senior Tea which was a wonderful reunion-like event!

**Duke Connor** for keeping our museum building and grounds up to snuff and full of laughter!

**Jane Jenks, Judy Groff** and **Laura Dewey** for purchasing, planting and maintaining our beautiful flower beds!

▶ As the former President of the SNHHS, Loris put her heart, soul and even at times, her husband into the mix of running a virtual second 'family.' She still serves as a member of our museum and is now our official **Town of Schroon Historian**. In her 'retirement' from leadership roles in the museum, others have stepped up to do the work, as present times evolve into our new history.

## LIKE NIGHT & DAY



Stashed away in our "outbuilding" we call the Annex, we keep all the large objects donated to the museum. This sleigh was donated by Leo Clark, who bought it, repaired it and painted it. During the holiday season, we put it out for display on the museum front porch to add a little season's cheer for the passers by!

## WHEN THE CIRCUS CAME TO TOWN

By Barbara (Bogle) Connor

I was about 4 or 5 years old when we were staying at my grandparents' old house on Elmwood Avenue. We called this place 'The house on the flats.'

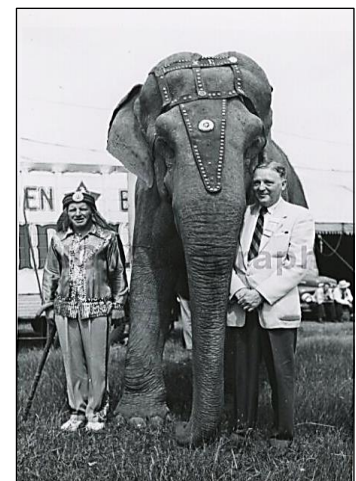
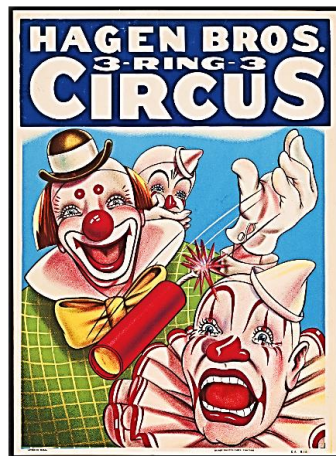
Once upon a normal day, I heard my mother hollering for my siblings and me to come out onto the porch. To our amazement, we saw the strange looking people of the circus, followed by trailers loaded with many strange props. Next to roll by were cages filled with lions pacing back and forth. The elephants came next, all walking as a herd. My excitement, as well as my sisters,' was over the top! How could all this be happening on our tiny street? Next the Ringmaster appeared, high stepping past us on the street. The whole parade seemed to last for at least two hours!

We watched very wide-eyed and mesmerized as they erected the tents.

Later in the afternoon, we were walking past the home of Delores & Rose Suprenaught when Rose waved to us as we passed by. The random droppings from the elephants and other animals were everywhere so we couldn't look away for long!

It was a magical show I will never forget! For a very young girl to see all those beautiful women, the trapeze artists, the clowns as well as all the performing animals such as dogs that could drive little cars! What a night!

The next day, they pulled out just as fast as they had moved in! Decades later it is just a clear in my mind as it was on those days and the little girl in me will never forget the night the circus came to town!



# SENIOR SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

## THE REUNION OF OUR FORMER MEMBERS

On a sunny Sunday afternoon in September, 2023, the Historical Society hosted an open house for all Senior Citizens and former board members of the society. All community members were welcome, but with a focus on offering seniors an opportunity to view the exhibits, socialize with old friends, and enjoy some refreshments together.

During the hours of 2 to 4 that day, fifty people visited the Museum. Some stayed for the entire event enjoying the “meet, greet and eat” atmosphere that took on a life of its own. Everyone viewed the exhibits including Willhelm Pichardt: A Man With A Plan, The Brown Swan Tea Room, aka The Yellow Coach and Brown Swan Inn, and The Roaring Twenties featuring the Miller Sisters of Schroon Lake.

This event was a huge success in the name of community gatherings. We were so honored to host former board members, Lillian Richardson, former docent and Volunteer Chairman; Anne Breen Metcalf, former Docent

and Exhibit Contributor; David Moffat, former Membership and Technology Chairman; Carol Moffat, former Treasurer; Frank Smith, former docent and Hospitality Chairman who traveled for Glens Falls to be with us that day; Loris Clark, Past President 2006-2022 and all around committee chairperson. We missed seeing our two past Sunday afternoon quintessential docents, Ralph Cooke and Bob Yoeckel who were not able to make it that day.

This event was a win/win for the Historical Society and we think, for the community. Because of its success, we are planning it as an annual event. So, look for the date and time and join us in the fall on a sunny Sunday afternoon in September, 2022 and join us at the Museum!



### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We are planning to publish the *names* of our donors and memberships in our *next* issue of the newsletter. Those records are currently being “re-formatted” by the newsletter’s editor.

## **IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR**

From the President's Desk....

Happy New Year! I hope you are all staying healthy and safe in 2024 as we watch 2023 float away in our rear-view mirror.

2023 was a successful year at the Schroon-North Hudson Historical Society. To start off the year, a group of volunteers from our museum met with Lisa Hess - Marks of the Pinecone Mercantile in Schroon Lake. Lisa was instrumental in assisting the Lodge at Schroon (former WOL Inn) with their decorating efforts during their renovations. She came to us with a mission to locate as many high-quality historical photos of the history of Schroon Lake to have reproduced and hung, not only in the Lobby Gallery at the Lodge, but also throughout the entire complex. We not only assisted them in finding images in our museum archives, but we connected them with Tom Lynch at the Warren County Historical Society. Mr. Lynch is the grandson of Ward Grover Shippey, the former architectural designer of the original Brown Swam Club (WOL INN). Tom's entire grandfather's collection of photos and architectural designs is housed at the Warren County Historical Society. When the Lodge had their walk

through to show local businesses and organizations the work, they had done renovating, the gallery of photos was a huge hit as locals walked through the lobby gallery.

In addition, last year was our first year since Covid that we returned to most of our regular programming. On June 16<sup>th</sup> we kicked off the summer with our first lecture of our three-lecture series for 2023. Our first speaker was Kate Walton, owner of Camp Nawita located on Paradox Lake. Kate gave a presentation on the history of Camp Nawita and how her family came to own it. It was well attended, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Kate not only told the history and her family's history, but she brought lots of memorabilia and photos for folks to pass around and see.

A week later we kicked off the official summer hours at the museum with our annual Ice Cream Social. Our Ice Cream Social is the first opportunity for guests to see our new exhibits for the year and enjoy some amazing time reminiscing about the old days. We were very appreciative of Stewarts Shops providing the ice cream that was served and very thankful to all donors that donated items for our basket raffle held on the front porch. This year we raised nearly \$500

to help support our museum programs.

Our new exhibits this year included a history of the Brown Swan Club, complete with two ladies having a beautiful tea with cookies and cake, while sitting below a painting of the Brown Swan Club that was done by Ms. Shaughnessy. In addition, we had a large exhibit on Wilhelm Pickhardt. Mr. Pickhardt was the largest landowners in Schroon Lake in the late 1800's. He owned land just north of the village which included a horse racetrack, and most of the land on the east shore of the lake going all the way down to the Starbuckville Dam. Our guests were very surprised to learn that his daughter was an alleged spy during WWI.

On July 14, our second lecture was held in partnership with the Lodge on Schroon Lake. Tom Lynch was the guest speaker, and he gave an amazing hour long talk about the work his grandfather Ward Grover Shippey did in our area. Not only did his grandfather design the Brown Swan Club but he also designed various other buildings in Schroon Lake. We had close to 90 guests in attendance and even though there was a raging storm outside and power flickering off and on, we made it to the end to all race home before the flooding began. ➡

▶ To finish up our lecture series, we had Kate Walton return to the Schroon Lake Boathouse Theatre on August 17<sup>th</sup> where she shared her father's geological work in Paradox Lake region. Kate's father was a geologist that worked for Yale University and during the 1950s he dedicated his studies to the Paradox Lake Quadrangle. Her talk once again included many maps, images, and memorabilia that she shared with all the guests in the room. The lecture was attended by nearly 85 people and a great success.

To finish off the year, we held our first annual Senior Day at the Museum. All our local seniors from Schroon Lake and North Hudson were invited to come to the museum on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> to have refreshments and enjoy the exhibits. It was a huge success and my favorite part was sitting around listening to the many stories that they told of either growing up here in Schroon or visiting Schroon since they were a young child. There is nothing better to hear than familiarity and oral history from those that grew up here many years ago.



So, in closing, I would like to share one of my favorite events that happened this summer. In the spring, I received a message

via our museum Facebook page from a gentleman by the name of Mr. David Nierenberg. Mr. Nierenberg lives in Washington State. He explained that his parents had passed and their last wish was that their children would visit Schroon Lake and the place they fell in love, which was an all-girls children camp where they worked. We soon spoke on the phone and he shared their amazing story. It seemed in the summer of 1947, his mother, Lynn Holtzman, and her identical twin Sue Holtzman, both 18 years old, were hired to be counselors at this all-girls children's camp. It was at the camp that his mother met his father. Now, here is where the story gets more interesting. It seems that men were not allowed to work at this all-girls camp. So, my question to David was "How did your father end up working there?" To which he replied... "Well, my grandmother Elodie Nierenberg, my father's mom, was the music director at the camp. During that summer the lifeguard got very sick and had to go home abruptly. The camp was in trouble. They could not operate without a lifeguard and they could not find any female lifeguard on such short notice. So, my grandmother suggested my father, Ted Nierenberg a certified lifeguard, could do the job till the end of the summer. The camp agreed, but my father would have to stay with my

grandmother in her cabin to make sure that proper protocol was kept." David went on to explain that when his father was lifeguarding one day, his mother and the campers she oversaw came to the beach to swim. They met, hit it off, and the rest was history. They got to know each other over the remaining summer, continued to date, and fell in love after camp was over. However, his father would not marry her till she finished college. His dad understood that it was important that she complete her studies. After his mother was done with college, they married, and started their family.

Well, as a hopeless romantic, this story moved me, and I asked what the name of the camp was that they worked at. Unfortunately, when his parents spoke of the camp over the years the children thought the name of the camp was Whispering Pines Camp. I had not heard of that one, so I was a bit confused. I told him I would do what I could to find out any information and began searching archives, asking some of our older members and volunteers, searching old NY newspapers for our area. But was coming up empty-handed. I did find a vintage post card of a "Whispering Pines Lodge" up on Lock Mueller but knew that was not correct either. I was just about to give up when I saw ▶



Ted Nierenberg

a post by Sharron Tyrell asking her sister if she remembered working at Lakeside Pines Camp on the lake and walking to the small store down the road just before Stone Bridge and Caves. That was when the light bulb went off. I remembered my mom would talk about working at an all-girls children's camp on the lake with Mrs. Tyrell and her sister. I immediately reached out to Sharron and confirmed where the camp was. I then reached out to Mr. Nierenberg and let him know I had found the location of the beach that his parents fell in love with and that the complex was now owned by Word of Life. He asked if there was any chance that he and his siblings could visit the location and have a moment to remember their parents. I told he was in luck... I just happen to know the director of that complex, and reached out to Jonathon Bubar and shared their story. He, like myself, thought it was an amazing story and was



Lynn Holtzman

gracious enough to give us a time slot to visit the beach at the camp on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

I first met the Nierenberg siblings and granddaughter at Pitkin's Restaurant for breakfast, and they shared with me amazing photos of their parents. They also shared that they talked to one of their mothers' old friends who also had served as a counselor, and she had verified the name of the camp and they even had found a card with the name on it. We then traveled to the camp, and they spent some time out on the dock remembering their parents, sharing their stories etc. When they were ready to leave, they made their way back to the beach, and I suggested I take a group picture of them in the Adirondack chairs. We all could imagine their parents right there on the beach in 1947 falling in love. I will not lie; I was full of emotions, and they were so grateful to be able to see the exact location that their loving parents had met. As

▶ they were saying their goodbyes, David handed me a gift for the museum, a contribution of \$2,500. I told him he did not need to, and he explained that he is very involved in his own museums of choice and he and his family were most appreciative of all the hard work I had put into finding this location for them. Once again, the emotions flowed. I cried all the way back to Schroon, not only because of the amazing donation that would help the museum in so many ways, but because it reminded me how important it is to celebrate love. Love of people, love of our history and so much more.



Lynn Holtzman & Ted Nierenberg