

From the Executive Director's Desk

I am often asked how we are improving access to our museum and promoting education. With attendance on an upswing, we must redouble our efforts to achieve these objectives and secure our place as an active partner in the cultural life of our region.

The *Ghost Hunters'* recent investigation of Hyde Hall will do a great deal to publicize our museum to a national audience. For a week in late March of this spring, a team of thirty hard working young people set up infra-red cameras, motion detectors, and other highly sensitive equipment to prepare for a *Ghost Hunters* episode that will air October 30th, 2013. Stay tuned, as this program promises to explore the history of Hyde Hall and the people who lived and died here, some of whom may remain with us to this day. The *Ghost Hunters* Facebook page boasts over 2.6 million fans who will avidly watch this show, learning about Hyde Hall and its many interesting stories. This kind of free publicity is invaluable, and our own ghost tours will undoubtedly profit greatly from it.

On May 11th we opened with our Mother's Day Weekend Garden Party, with a variety of fun activities and Flis Blum serving tea. A week later, on May 19th we presented our first collaboration with Glimmerglass Festival and the Fenimore Art Museum. This event, entitled "The Picturesque," offered literary readings from the Romantic Movement, an international 19th-century celebration of nature and intuition. It began with a passage from *The Pioneers*, an early novel by James Fenimore Cooper, whose nature writing helped to inspire the Hudson River School movement in American art. This event also featured selections from *Rural Hours*, by Cooper's daughter, Susan Fenimore Cooper. As a special treat, stars from Glimmerglass Festival performed musical interpretations of the age in our incomparable drawing room with its superior acoustics and stunning views of Hyde Bay. This collaboration will include future readings and musical events at Hyde Hall on June 23 and July 7, with selections from Louisa May Alcott, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, and other important American authors. Hyde Hall is especially proud to partner with Francesca Zambello of Glimmerglass Festival and Paul D'Ambrosio of the Fenimore Art

Museum to showcase an artistic movement whose spirit survives as a powerful influence on American culture.

To improve our collections and the educational benefits Hyde Hall offers to visitors, we are collaborating with members of the Historic Lighting Association and the Rushlight Club, whose members have taken a strong interest in our rare, recently restored vapor light chandeliers. On April 6th we held a reception at Hyde Hall to discuss how to become a destination for scholars of early lighting technology. The restoration of the vapor light chandeliers, completed in 2012, accomplished with funding from Douglas Kent in memory of Ashton Langdon, has greatly increased Hyde Hall's visibility and importance to those who believe there is a need for a representative collection of fully functioning period lighting. Hyde Hall is poised to become a museum environment that can serve as a guide to collectors, scholars, and all those seriously interested in material culture and 19th-century American life.

Similarly, the landscape restoration project has led to renewed interest in George Clarke's English-style picturesque landscape design. In the years since the formation of the Friends of Hyde Hall in the 1960s, the mansion complex has been the focus of restoration. With funds from a donor interested in returning Hyde Hall's immediate environment to its original appearance we have begun to direct attention to the overall design of Clarke's magnificent plan, one that places Hyde Hall in the center of a well-developed landscape that once included a dock, a boathouse, a fish pond, and a walled garden with a fountain with radiating paths. The restoration of these features remains a dream, but we are closer now to its realization thanks to donors who understand the significance of the Hyde Hall landscape design. George Clarke's picturesque park, with its varied views and wild-seeming but carefully planned arrangements of trees, was one of the first of its type in the United States and became a model for the National Park Service as we know it today.

As part of our drive toward increasing publicity and educational opportunities at Hyde Hall, we have


strengthened our partnership with the Cooperstown Graduate Program (CGP). Emily Hopkins, a first-year CGP student, began an internship with us in January 2013 to research, plan, and implement a volunteer program tailored to fit our needs and to better serve our visitors. This internship includes the following benchmarks:

- researching museum volunteer programs and policies and determining ways volunteers can help Hyde Hall pursue its education and preservation goals
- developing a volunteer application
- creating a volunteer handbook
- developing a "How to Volunteer" feature in our website
- recruiting volunteers
- working with our management team to ensure continued volunteer coordination beyond the CGP internship

We are grateful to Emily Hopkins and Dr. Gretchen Sorin, Director of the Cooperstown Graduate Program, for making this cooperative venture a reality.

In sum, our strength and vitality as a nationally recognized historic resource depends upon our dedicated staff, an active and supportive board of directors, and a leadership that recognizes the need to expand beyond ordinary interpretation and programming. With the outreach we are now planning, we have a recipe for much improved access to the treasures of Hyde Hall and the educational opportunities that breathe life into history.

The most essential part of our success, however, is you. Your continued support will help us to create an environment that places each visitor at the center of the Hyde Hall experience and makes this incredible home a resource and refuge for all.


--Jonathan Maney,
Executive Director, Hyde Hall, Inc.



Support Hyde Hall

I/We would like to contribute to the preservation of Hyde Hall with a gift of \$_____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Credit Card # (MC or VISA): _____

Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to Hyde Hall, Inc.
Mail to: Hyde Hall, Inc. PO Box 721, Cooperstown, NY 13326

Thank you

Hyde Hall–Otsego County's Downton Abbey

The success of *Downton Abbey* has created a good deal of interest in life behind castle walls. Perhaps there is a little of the voyeur in all of us, particularly when we are given the opportunity to peek into the lives of those from a different place and time who appear to be living lives full of excitement and drama. Impending financial disaster, potential loss of a great family estate and a fortuitous marriage may sound like a plot line for fictional *Downton Abbey*, but it is also an important part of the very real history of Hyde Hall. If we peered inside Hyde Hall's walls around the turn of the century, what would we have seen?

In the spring of 1887 George Hyde Clarke, known to friends and acquaintances as "Hyde," was following the sheriff from room to room in Hyde Hall bidding on furniture being sold as part of the bankruptcy proceeding against his father, "Old George Clarke." Hyde used money provided by his mother-in-law, Jane Carter, since he was also officially bankrupt as a result of signing notes for his father. He perhaps spent too much buying what his wife described as "old mahogany, out at the elbows," but sentiment clouded his judgment. Hyde Hall itself had also been sold and Hyde and his wife, Mary Gale, reduced to living as tenants in the house built by his grandfather. The only hope for returning Hyde Hall to the Clarkes lay in the bankruptcy law's provision for redemption. Within a limited period of time the auctioned property could be redeemed by paying the sale price, interest and fees. Leslie Pell Clarke, Hyde's cousin, redeemed Hyde Hall and then sold it to Mary Gale, who used money from her recently deceased mother's estate. Hyde Hall had been saved for the family, now Hyde and Mary Gale focused on turning it into a home.

Always conscious of their limited funds, things left unfinished by Hyde's grandfather were completed, windows added, doors opened up and the kitchen refurbished. Even before repairs were completed this young, gregarious couple began inviting friends and acquaintances to share their hospitality at Hyde Hall. The most frequent guest was Louis B. Strong, affectionately called "Uncle Toby" by the family. This bon vivant bachelor spent many summers at Hyde Hall. Other guests included noted golf course architect Devereux Emmet, as well as the "Emmet girls," Ellen, Jane and Rosina, artists all.

These intimate gatherings of special friends were interspersed with more elaborate functions such as an 1898 dinner party for 24 people, including such Cooperstown luminaries as Mr. and Mrs. McKim,



George Hyde Clarke (1858-1914)



Clarke children, circa 1920s

Edward S. Clark, Mrs. James F. Cooper and members of the Carter and Bowers families.

In 1905 Anne Clarke, daughter of Hyde and Mary Gale, was officially presented to society in New York City, but later in the year had an "at home" at Hyde Hall. *The Freeman's Journal* reported that "The ancestral home at Hyde Hall was opened for the occasion ... to a large and fashionable throng who came by land and water ... the great rooms at Hyde Hall resplendent with music, dancing and feasting until midnight." Two years later Anne's wedding reception took place at Hyde Hall, surely the social event of the season, and immortalized in numerous photographs by noted Cooperstown photographer Arthur (Putt) Telfer.



Peever's and other Hyde Hall staff, circa 1900

Witness to many of these events, but nearly lost to history are people such as Thomas Peevers, Annie McCarthy and Elizabeth Sauve. Thomas Peevers, or simply "Peevers" to the family, served as the butler at Hyde Hall for at least 10 years. Letters indicate that, in addition to his regular duties, Peevers was sometimes called upon to package shirts for shipment to Uncle Toby and to rid his suits of moths. Annie McCarthy had a less visible, but no less essential, role as a cook at Hyde Hall during the 1890's, no doubt preparing many of the meals enjoyed by the Clarkes and their friends. As part of her duties as an upstairs maid Elizabeth Sauve rekindled the fires in the bedroom stoves and heated water so the Clarkes and guests could wash upon arising. Years later she would relate to her son that the most dreaded task of all was being pressed into service to assist with serving lunch in the courtyard. Although the Clarkes appeared oblivious to them, Elizabeth was petrified of the little ring-necked snakes that would come out to sun themselves on the warm stones.

Mary Gale would live until 1929, but this era in Hyde Hall history came to a premature end in 1914 when 55 year old Hyde died of stomach cancer and yet another George Hyde Clarke foregoes a career in the outside world to return to Hyde Hall and begin his unique story, a story that will span the Great Depression and both World Wars.

--Larry Smith
Tours & Collections Coordinator

Many Thanks to our Generous Donors

(from January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012)

Founders' Circle \$5,000 +

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Blum
Mr. Noel H. Dries
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gipson
Mr. W. Keyes Hill-Edgar and Dr. Allison Hill-Edgar
Peter R. and Cynthia K. Kellogg Foundation
Mr. Douglas R. Kent
Mr. Brent R. Nicklas
Mr. Jack Rudin
The Scriven Foundation

Halcyon Circle \$1,000 - \$4,999

Mr. H. Raymond Armitage
Mr. and Mrs. A. William Bertsch
Dr. Timothy Campbell and Dr. Sally Graumlich
Mr. Henry S. F. Cooper, Jr.
Ms. Elizabeth Dater
Ms. Laird Elting and Mr. Jean Robert
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony S. Esposito
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Franck
Miss S. Tier French
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Friedman
The Alice Busch Gronewaldt Foundation, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Gregory
Mr. and Mrs. Corwith Hamill
Dr. and Mrs. Lewis L. Hamilton
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hanft
Mr. and Mrs. Gates Helms Hawn
The Holbrook Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. A. Irwin
Mr. Richard H. Jenrette
Mr. Eric Lysdahl and Mr. David Laureano
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Manno
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Mininberg
Mr. John D. Ramsey
Mr. and Mrs. David Russell
Mrs. Bradley Goodyear Smith
Mr. and Mrs. H. William Smith, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. George B. Snell
Lady Juliet and Dr. Christopher Tadgell
Mr. Eugene Thaw
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Thompson
Mr. Carl H. Tiedemann
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Vanderbilt, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert T. Vincent
The David and Candace Weir Foundation

Wellington Club \$500 - \$999

Mr. Andrew Arno
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Beightol
Mr. John B. Black
Mr. and Mrs. Marc Bresee
Mr. Peyton Carter and Ms. Luca Fleury
Miss Jane Clark
Mr. A. R. Hyde Clarke, Jr. and Ms. Margaret A. McKinley

Mr. Richard Conway and Ms. Greta Weil Conway
Mr. Peter Stormonth Darling
Dr. and Mrs. Neal Demby
Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Dillingham
Mr. John S. Dyson
Mr. and Mrs. Avram Edidin
Mrs. James J. Elting
Mr. and Mrs. Jean-Marie Eveillard
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Glazer
Mr. James Grant and Ms. Patricia Kavanaugh
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Jakubowicz
Hon. and Mrs. M. Langhorne Keith
Mrs. Suzanne Kingsley
Ms. Carol Lewitt
Ms. Susan P. Liu
Mrs. Payne Middleton
Mr. and Mrs. James Northrup
Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Neill
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Reynolds
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Ryland
Mr. and Mrs. John Sanford
Mrs. Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff
Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Stack
Mr. Peter Trent
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Weldon, III
Ms. Francesca Zambello and Ms. Faith Gay

Century Club \$100 - \$499

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Adams
Dr. and Mrs. Allan J. Ahearne
Mr. Louis Allstadt and Ms. Melinda Hardin
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Armstrong
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Berk
Dr. and Mrs. James Bordley, IV
Mr. Charles Brothman
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Schuyler Brown
Mr. Charles Burnham
Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Cannon, III
Mr. Jay Cantor
Ms. Katrina Cary
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher T. Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Bruce Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Clarke
Mr. and Mrs. John Curtis
Dr. and Mrs. James Dalton
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Darlington, Jr.
Mr. Steve Davis
Ms. Joan Desens and Mr. Simon Carr-Ellison
Mrs. Phyllis Dunning
Mr. Robert O. Eggleston
Mrs. Catherine Ellsworth
Ms. Meryl Erlanger
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Farmakis
Ms. Ann Davison Farra
Mr. Donald Feinberg
Mr. Sherwin M. Goldman
Mr. Carl B. Good and Ms. Pamela Chapman Poppe
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen M. Gotwald
Ms. Jane Gould

Mr. Montague H. Hackett, Jr.
Mr. Drummond Hadley
Ms. Erika P. Hall
Ms. Era Hanspal
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen K. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Van Zandt Hawn
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Heinrich
Ms. Megan Holken
Mr. and Mrs. Graham Humes
Ms. Susan J. Huxtable
Dr. Charles L. Hyman and Dr. Ofra Hyman
Ms. Sharon Jacquet
Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Kuhn
Mr. Paul C. Lambert
Mr. and Mrs. Percy F. Leaper
Ms. Alexandra Lebenthal and Mr. Jay Diamond
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Levine
Ms. Carol C. Lewis
Ms. Anne Loretto
Mr. Eric Lysdahl
Dr. and Mrs. Roger W. MacMillan
Mr. and Mrs. George Mahoney, Jr.
Ms. Katherine Manger
Ms. Grace Mascioli
Dr. and Mrs. John May
Mr. Mark J. McClure
Mr. and Mrs. Jason McCoy
Mr. and Mrs. Barnabus McHenry
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. McPhail, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. H. William Michaels
Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Moglia
Ms. Maggie Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Karin Lodinsky Nelson
Mr. Mitchell Owens and Mr. Matthew Zwissler
Mr. and Mrs. James Palik
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas M. Pell
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pfau
Mr. and Mrs. James Patrick
Mr. and Mrs. Brian M. Prew
Mr. James Rasin
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Redman
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Redmond
Mr. Badgley Reid
Ms. Marcie Ritter
Mr. Samuel A. Ross
Mr. James Sasser
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Scurry
Ms. Veronica Gil Seaver
Dr. Deborah E. Sentochnik
Mr. Peter Severud
Mr. Edward C. Smith
Mr. Roger Smith and Mrs. Dorothy Smith
Mr. Carl Stearns
Mrs. Paul J. Sternberg
Ms. Lee Stockwell
Mrs. Carol Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Thaw
Mr. Simon Thorpe
Mr. Michael Troner
Ms. Lynn Tucker
Mrs. Catherine Tuttle
Mr. Douglas J. Van Deusen and Ms. Diana Becker
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Von Briesen

Ms. Susan F. C. Weil
Ms. Vicki Whicker
Dr. and Mrs. Brian White
Ms. Joan White
Ms. Kara S. Willenburg
Dr. and Mrs. Kirkham Wood
Mrs. Martha Yager
Mr. Steven P. Zerby and Ms. Joanne Tobey

Friends' Club - \$99

Ms. Carol W. Anderson
Mr. Andrew Astmann
Ms. Linda Butler
Ms. Andree Conklin
Ms. Emily Daunis and Mr. Dan Wallis
Dr. John S. Davis
Mrs. Barbara Dorsey
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Fillo
Mr. Edward E. Gage
Dr. and Mrs. Bruce S. Harris
Mr. Howard Hartnett
Mr. Charles Houghton
Dr. and Mrs. Charles J. Hudson
Mr. Richmond J. Hulse
Mr. Richard G. King
Mrs. Mary T. Leary
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight D. Linder
Mr. Lawrence M. Manion
Ms. Melinda McTaggart
Mr. Johannes R. Neckermann
Mrs. Janet K. Patlow
Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Hunt Pollard
Mrs. Ruth J. Redjives
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Redmond
Mr. John Robinson, Sr.
Mr. Stewart G. Rosenblum
Mr. Carl Schwarzer
Mrs. G. E. Kidder Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Sumner
Mr. and Mrs. Bruno A. Talevi
Ms. April Tiffany
Mr. and Mrs. James Toner
Ms. Lucy M. Townsend
Mrs. Eugene Wells
Mr. Jay Williams
Mr. Michael Willis and Mr. William Oliver

Donors to the Collection

Mr. and Mrs. John Anagnost
Ms. Rabbit Goody
Mr. Douglas Kent
Mr. Eric Lysdahl
Ms. Katherine Manger
Mr. Robert Schneider
Mr. William Soeffing

2013 Season Events and Programs

Sunday, June 23	American Romantics, 5:30pm, Tickets \$20
Sunday, July 7	American Romantics, 5:30pm, Tickets \$20
Sunday, July 14	Evening of the Arts Performance, Flis Blum interviews dancer Tom Gold, 5:30pm, Tickets \$20
Wednesdays, July 17, 24, 31	The Haunting of Hyde Hall, 6pm and 7pm, Tickets \$10
Saturday, August 3	Hyde Hall Annual Gala, for invitation please call 607-547-5098
Sunday, August 4	Tadgell Book Signing
Wednesdays, August 7, 14	The Haunting of Hyde Hall, 6 and 7pm, Tickets \$10
Sunday, August 18	Movie Night at Hyde Hall
Saturday, October 26	Halloween Costume Party, Tickets \$50

For more information please visit www.HydeHall.org and call 607-547-5098 for tickets and reservations.



Hyde Hall needs you!

Hyde Hall welcomes volunteers of all ages, abilities and interests to support our operations in many ways: assisting at special events, organizing our exciting historical collection of documents and artifacts, maintaining the house itself, and supporting the staff with clerical work in our offices over the Visitor Center. There are now new ways to volunteer, such as serving as Junior Library Assistants or Grounds Interpreters. Volunteers at Hyde Hall become part of the home’s history by being actively involved in its preservation, creating memorable experiences for visitors, and making Hyde Hall a lasting legacy for our community.



HYDE HALL, Inc.

PO Box 721
Cooperstown, New York
13326

607.547.5098 • www.hydehall.org



SAVE the DATE
Hyde Hall Gala: A *Downton Abbey* Evening
Saturday, August 3, 2013 6:30 pm



HYDE HALL
Cooperstown, New York
2013 Spring Newsletter

Dear Friends of Hyde Hall:

This year promises new developments in the house and new opportunities for public events at Hyde Hall. Inspired by the popularity of *Downton Abbey*, our regular tours will be different from those of past years. We will offer a look at the staff areas--such as the kitchen, scullery, pantries, and the servants’ hall—which make up fully a third of the interior space of the house. We hope this will allow visitors to understand how a house the size of Hyde Hall functioned before the introduction of labor-saving devices. Because of the enthusiasm over and interest in the restoration of the Dining Room chandeliers, we are adding more period lamps and candlesticks to a variety of rooms and will be offering special evening tours that focus on the history, design and rapid advancement of lighting in the nineteenth century. In respect to innovative public programming, we have joined with Glimmerglass Festival and the Fenimore Art Museum in presenting a series of lectures about Romanticism in America.



A series of sketches of life at Hyde Hall in the 1890s and early twentieth century by Ellen Emmet (1875-1941), Rosina Emmet(1854-1948) and Jane Erin Emmet(1873-1961) will be on view this year. The Emmets were members of a talented and distinguished New York family that included political and business leaders as well as successful artists. Rosina became a regular illustrator for *Harper’s Bazaar* and *Century Magazine* in 1891. Ellen was hired as an illustrator for *Vogue* in 1891 and for *Harper’s Weekly* and *Harper’s Bazaar* a year later. Many of their sketches express the sense of capturing a momentary image that was so popular in illustration at the time. We are not sure how the Emmets came to be friends of the Clarkes. They were related to Leslie Pell Clarke’s wife, Henrietta Temple, and may have been introduced to Hyde Hall during a visit to the Pell Clarkes’ home at nearby Swanswick. Rosina’s and Jane’s brother, Devereux Emmet, is thought to have designed the Otsego Golf Club on part of the Swanswick estate in 1893-4. He became one of America’s foremost designers and is credited with over 160 golf courses including Cooperstown’s Leatherstocking Golf Club in 1909. Another connection was through the marriage of Rosina Emmet to Arthur Sherwood, whose brother Philip was a great friend of George Hyde Clarke and began visiting Hyde Hall in 1881.

The sketches include several portraits of Mary Gale Clarke and George Hyde Clarke as well as their daughter Anne, scenes of playing cards in the Drawing Room, Lewis Barton Strong playing an upright piano, and George Hyde Clarke smoking a cigar. Ellen Emmet was a celebrated portraitist in her lifetime, winner of a number of prizes and nationally recognized for her portraits of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Augustus St. Gaudens, William James and Bishops William Lawrence and Henry Codman Potter. Her life-size oil portrait of Lewis Barton Strong hangs in the Great House dining room. Another oil portrait of George Hyde Clarke remains with the family.

With new rooms to share, new objects to see and new programs, there is a lot going on at Hyde Hall and we hope to see you all here this summer.

Gilbert T. Vincent
Board President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jonathan P. Maney

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gilbert T. Vincent
Chair of the Board
Sally Graumlich
Vice-Chair
Robert O’Neill
Treasurer
David Russell
Vice-Treasurer
W. Keyes Hill-Edgar
Secretary

Andrew M. Blum
Chair Emeritus
Timothy Campbell
A.R. Hyde Clarke, Jr.
Noel H. Dries
Laird V. R. Elting
Anthony Esposito
Christopher Franck
S. Tier French
Robert Hanft
Allison Hill-Edgar
Douglas Kent
Mitchell Owens
Robert Schneider
Jeanette Weldon