

New carpet woven for the Tiger Maple Staircase

# HYDE HALL

Cooperstown, New York

## 2015 Fall Newsletter

### From the Chairman's Desk

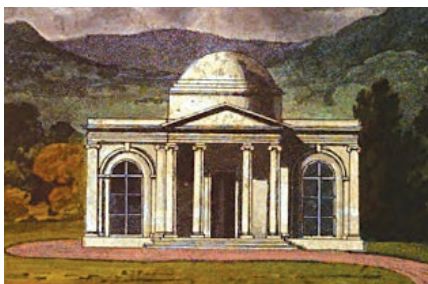
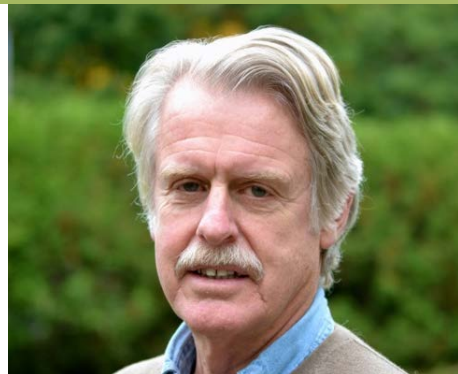
Dear Friends of Hyde Hall:

Through a grant from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) made possible by Senator Jim Seward in 2014, we have restored and reopened Tin Top, the original gatehouse built in 1822. It is now the Visitors' Center and ticket office. Although in a new position closer to the house, Tin Top once again greets visitors as the first architectural impression of the Hyde Hall estate. A woodshed has also been re-erected on the west side. The interior includes an enlarged and handsome bookstore as well as a meeting room and small kitchen for staff. The DASNY grant has also funded important work on the main house, renewing mortar on all three stories of the stair tower in the courtyard and the pediment above the portico. The final exterior restoration will involve leveling and remortaring the front steps before we open for tours in May.

Controlling humidity at Hyde Hall is an ongoing effort and much is done with manual labor by the staff, such as emptying dehumidifiers, adjusting fans and opening and closing windows. By cutting back the encroaching trees surrounding the house, we were able to not only open up the original views, but also make a big difference in exposing the house to more sunlight and drying breezes. Another important step in this endeavor to mitigate humidity is the restoration of the gravel drives that once surrounded the perimeter of the house. Hyde Hall has never had foundation planting which was introduced to America by A.J. Downing in the 1840s. Instead the site followed the earlier tradition of having the house stand alone on the landscape. The gravel drives will also make the ground floor more accessible to wheelchairs.

The final part of the DASNY grant will restore the pine flooring in seven of the first floor rooms in the staff wing that now have temporary plywood. The installation of the floors will be done in concert with an upgrade of the electrical, security and smoke alarm systems that is being planned by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to start this winter.

We wish to thank Senator Seward and the State of New York as we work together to improve Hyde Hall.



1820s English Regency Villa with a gravel drive and sited in a picturesque landscape.



Hyde Hall in 1932 with a gravel drive.

*Gilbert T. Vincent*

Gilbert T. Vincent



### A Banner Year for You and Hyde Hall!

2015 has been an *anno mirabilis* for Hyde Hall. With tours and events attendance at all-time highs, more people than ever before know what Hyde Hall offers and why it is such a valuable community resource.

Looking ahead to 2016, we want you to consider these 5 reasons to continue your generous support for Hyde Hall:

1. **Tours more popular than ever** and visitation up by 25% over the past 4 years.
2. **Much more to enjoy**—historic reproduction carpets, wonderful new donations of furniture and accessories, and a master plan that is recreating the full story of Hyde Hall's significance as a premier early New York State home and national historic site.

3. **A top quality tour staff** composed of experts with advanced degrees and a passion for serving the public.
4. **Programming and partnerships** that bring theater, talented musicians, and wonderful new events, including ones developed by graduate students at the Cooperstown Graduate Program for children, families, and all visitors.
5. **The most beautiful views and vistas in New York State**, with new accommodations for visiting artists, scholars, and students of American history.

The list could go on! If you have been here recently, you know how much has been accomplished at Hyde Hall: the restoration of Tin Top as our new Visitors' Center, major additions to Collections, and the installation of authentic and colorful carpets. This can only continue with your support.

Please make your gift to Hyde Hall right now. You are the cornerstone of our success.

Thank you!

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



Tin Top ticket office and bookstore



Winterthur student tour



1820s Shepherd and Boyd Albany coin silver tea pot, part of tea set on loan from Anne and M. Langhorne Keith

## Support Hyde Hall

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

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Hyde Hall, Inc.  
Mail to: Hyde Hall, Inc. PO Box 721, Cooperstown, NY 13326  
To donate securely online, go to [HydeHall.org](http://HydeHall.org).

Hyde Hall, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## Thank You!



Autumn mist over Hyde Hall

Photo by John Bower



## 2015 Hyde Hall Season Pictures

*Event Photos by John Bower.*



Photos by John Bower

**Spring:** 1- 3. Leatherstocking Region Federal Credit Union/HH Egg Hunt, 4-5. Tin Top Grand Opening (New Visitors' Center), 6-8. Spring Garden Party/Celebrate Mom Mother's Day!, 9. Glimmerglass Moon Shine Revelers, 10-12. *Pretty Tables*, *Perfect Setting* Lake and Valley Garden Club/Hyde Hall fundraiser, 13- 14. Cooperstown Summer Music Festival Pro Am Concert.

**Summer:** 15-16. Cooperstown Summer Music Festival Harpischord Concert, 17. *Music of WWI*, Glimmerglass Orchestra Concert, 18-19. Dr. Tadgell Book Signing and Dinner.

**Fall:** 20. Walpole Society Special Visit, 21. Winterthur Student Lectures, 22. CGP Finger Lakes Wine Tasting Event, 23. 2015 Hyde Hall Gala.

Special thanks to everyone who helped make possible the wonderful events at Hyde Hall, Inc., in 2015.



## 2015 Hyde Hall Gala Pictures



1. *The Run for the Roses* Card 2. Pic of HH Gala Tent 3. Bill Michaels 4. Matthew Zwissler and Mitchell Owens 5. Dr. Brent Ridge, Carrie Thompson, Eric Lysdahl, Milla Lozanova and Josh Kilmer Purcell 6. Gilbert and Lin Vincent 7. Abby Ryland, Leigh Graham, Meredith Shankwitz 8. Tier French and Matthew Zwissler 9. Robert Faller, Ed Stack, Peter Deysenroth 10. The Handsome Hearts Band 11. Noel Dries and Gilbert Vincent 12. Auction Item - CGP Painted Horse 13. Doug and Carrie Thompson 14. Jonathan Maney, Sally Graumlich and Tim Campbell 15. Carrie Thompson and Noel Dries 16. Ed Stack and Gilbert Vincent 17. Carrie Thompson and Noel Dries 18. Carol Waller and Ed Stack 19. Patsy Smith and Bill Michaels 20. Kristen Gadowski, Jen Hulse, Elizabeth Sanchez 21. Carrie Thompson and Don Raddatz 22. Robin Mongeau and William Mongeau 23. Bill Weldon, Bill Smith, and Richard Scurry 24. Alex Dudek and Jane Beightol

We owe special thanks to Carrie Thompson and Eric Lysdahl, Gala Co-Chairs, and to everyone who contributed to the success of *The Run for the Roses*.



## New Gifts

### During 2015 Hyde Hall received many valuable gifts!

#### From **Jay Cantor:**

- 1820s tripartite over mantel mirror;
- 1815 New York breakfast table.

#### ❶ From **Bradbury Dyer III:**

- 1830s French secretary fire screen attributed to the shop of Duncan Phyfe.

#### ❷ From **Judy and Allen Freedman:**

- Two 1820s Federal armchairs.

#### From **Robert & Nellie Gipson:**

- Brussels carpet and border (manufactured by Langhorne Carpet Company).

#### From **Jamie Johnston:**

- Five 1820s fox hunting engravings.

#### ❸ From **Douglas Kent:**

- The Voyage of George Clarke to America* (1867 limited edition of 100 copies);
- 1830s Albany box stove; Two 1830s crocks;
- Two large Empire gilt mirrors; Four large classical iron garden urns;
- Damask and figured Venetian carpets (manufactured by Rabbit Goody of Thistle Hill Weavers); 18th-century portrait of a gentleman in armor.

#### From **Judy Piester:**

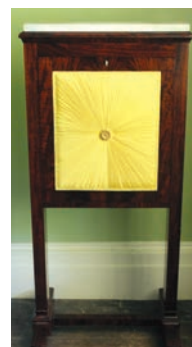
- 1830s blanket chest; 1830s Empire mahogany mirror; 1840s dictionary;
- 1910 silk wedding dress.

#### From **Richard and Barbara VonBriesen:**

- 19th-century foot operated device for summoning servants;
- several Clarke family books.

#### On loan from **Anne and M. Langhorne Keith:**

- 1820s Shepherd and Boyd Albany coin silver tea service;
- 1810s Isaac Hutton Albany silver pitcher.



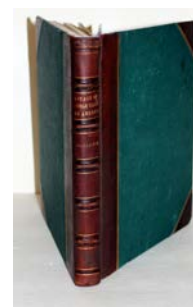
❶



❷



❸



Photos by John Bower

## Restoration Needed: Can You Help?



On the left is the un-restored, extremely rare rocking chair that George Clarke, the builder of Hyde Hall, purchased from Meads & Alvord on May 24, 1830. We are seeking donations to re-upholster this chair so that it will look more like the one shown on the right, which was made by Hancock & Company in Boston at around the same date. As you can see, new upholstery makes a world of difference! Estimated restoration cost: \$3500. Can you please help us with this important project?



## HYDE HALL, Inc.

PO Box 721  
Cooperstown, New York  
13326

607.547.5098 • [www.hydehall.org](http://www.hydehall.org)



David Hunt of the Vermont Custom Rug Company examining the Brussels carpet being made for Hyde Hall by the Langhorne Carpet Company in Penndel, PA.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jonathan P. Maney

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gilbert T. Vincent

*Chair of the Board*

Sally Graumlich

*Vice-Chair*

W. Keyes Hill-Edgar

*Secretary*

Robert O'Neill

*Treasurer*

David Russell

*Vice-Treasurer*

Andrew M. Blum

*Chair Emeritus*

### MEMBERS

Mary T. Clarke

Gaylord Dillingham

Noel H. Dries

Laird V. R. Elting

Robert Hanft

Allison Hill-Edgar

Douglas Kent

Milla Georgieva Lozanova

Eric Lysdahl

Mitchell Owens

Carl D. Stearns

Carolyn Pomeroy Thompson