

2012 TUG HILL SAGE NOMINATION FORM

A Tug Hill "Sage" is an individual who has been a part of Tug Hill life and traditions for all or most of his/her life, who has deep knowledge of Tug Hill's heritage and environment, and who has life-long involvement in Tug Hill. This distinguished title has gone to 26 individuals over the life of the Commission. Recipients of the award include: John Constable, Truman Greene, Hunt Rowe, Elwin Rowell, Livingston Lansing, George Bibbins, Alice Clemens, Harold Petrie, Courtney Winn, Elva Maciejko, Neil Wright, Harry Capron, Dr. Edwin Russell, John Hughes, Randy Kerr, Bernard Macklen, Warren Mathis, Robert Sauer, Ray Cheresnoski, Charlie Gallo, Beverly Harden, Neil Harden, Louis Hodkinson, John Mahaffy, Irving Kraeger, and Bernie Mettot.

Help the Tug Hill Commission celebrate another round of "Sages" to be announced at our Annual Meeting in May 2012 by nominating individuals you feel have made a major contribution to the region. Please complete the information below and return your nomination to the Tug Hill Commission, Dulles State Office Building, 317 Washington St., Watertown, NY, 13601 **NO LATER THAN April 10, 2012**. Thank you.

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee's address: _____

Nominee's phone number: _____

Nominee's e-mail address: _____

Brief explanation of why you think this nominee should be designated a Tug Hill Sage:

Please provide your name, address and telephone number (or e-mail address) so that we may be able to contact you if we have questions about your nomination. We can not accept anonymous nominations. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

If you would like to make more nominations, please use additional copies of this form.
Any questions please contact John Bartow at (315)785-2380 or by e-mail at john@tughill.org.

Tug Hill Sage Nomination Guidelines

Revised March 2010

Tug Hill Sages were first designated by the Commission in 1983. The distinction is bestowed upon those individuals who have vast knowledge of Tug Hill's heritage and its environment and have shown a life-long involvement in the region. The Commissioners have honored a number of worthy candidates, each with their own special contribution that they have brought to the region.

The individuals chosen as Sages have distinguished themselves by their strong historical knowledge of the region and by their actions that have contributed significantly to the quality of life on the Hill and most closely match the original intent of the title of "Tug Hill Sage."

Recognizing the distinction of a Tug Hill to the region, the Commissioners will recognize only a few (i.e. 1-3) Sages at each call for nominations. Should nominated Sages not be selected in a given year they may be submitted in a subsequent call for nominations.

In nominating an individual to become a Tug Hill Sage, the following guidelines have been established. Please provide information on as many of these guidelines as possible in completing the nomination form.

1. A resident of the Tug Hill region for a good portion of their life but in no case fewer than 10 years.
2. Contributed significantly to the region or it's communities – served as a local elected or appointed civic official; served or is serving as a volunteer in their community in a capacity that contributes to the heritage, environment, or quality of life of the region; a local business owner/entrepreneur that has contributed to the region's economic viability; contributed to the stewardship of the region's environment and resources; other (please elaborate further). In this contribution the individual was a leader whose influence enabled noteworthy improvement in the lives of individuals or organizations significant to the region.
3. Deeply acquainted and familiar with the region's culture, history and development, having knowledge of the area's rich resources, traditions or heritage.
4. Nominees may not be current Commission board members or employees or Board members or employees for which at least 10 years have passed since they left the Commission.
5. Cannot be currently engaged or elected to a political partisan office or appointed to a high profile government positions.
6. The Commission will recognize posthumous honorees however we ask that such nominations are for individuals who have deceased within the last 25 years.

Sage nominees will be reviewed and selected based on the information provided in the nomination form so please provide enough information so that the Commissioners can make an informed assessment of the candid. Use additional pages if necessary.

1983 Sages

- **John Constable Jr.** (1916-2006) comes from a founding family of Tug Hill and had a life time of devotion to Tug Hill heritage and history. John was a member of the eight ad hoc “steering councils” appointed by Cooperative Extension to plan the Tug Hill public forums in 1974-75
- **Truman Greene** (1899-1983) was a large landowner from the Town of Boylston. He was an avid hiker and cross country skier who loved the woods and wildlife of Tug Hill.
- **Hunt Rowe** (1898-1993) of Orwell was a woodsman of Tug Hill. His wisdom about nature was first rate and when he spoke at the Commission’s founding public meetings in 1974, folks in the Core listened.
- **Elwin Rowell** (1908-1990) was a native of Osceola and a shopkeeper in Glenfield. He was a large landowner in the Core Forest at one time owning 1900 acres of prime forest. Elwin was a founding member of THRIFT.

1991 Sage

- **Livingston Lansing** (1911-1992) of Boonville was a founding appointment to the Tug Hill Commission and served as a Commissioner from 1973 to 1991. Liv was the owner of the Boonville Harold, had a love of North Country weather, and was fascinated with railroads.

1993 Sages

- **George Bibbins Sr.** was a 12-year member of the Cooperative Tug Hill Planning Board and Supervisor of the Town of Pinckney. He served on the Lewis County Steering Councils that planned the Tug Hill forums in 1974-75.
- **Alice Clemens** (1922-1999), referred to as the “First Lady of Fiddling” was a native of Tug Hill and spent her life with a love of woods and music. She was co-founder of the Old Tyme Fiddlers Association and the North American Fiddlers Hall of Fame in Osceola.
- **Harold Petrie** was a long time member of the Town of Parish Planning Board and civic leader in his community. He is a founding member of Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust and continues to devote his time and knowledge to many organizations interested in the future of Tug Hill.
- **Courtney Winn** was a business partner in a veneer mill in Bernhard’s Bay and an enthusiast of Oneida Lake. Courtney is a past member of the Constantia town board and a major forest landowner on Tug Hill.

1996 Sages

- **Elva Maciejko** (1923-2007) was a lifelong resident of the Eastern portion of Tug Hill. Elva was also a long time member of the Tug Hill Gate Association.
- **Neil Wright** (1917-2007) of Osceola and Camden was a business owner and project manager for many major construction projects in northern New York as well as a member of the Camden planning board, but spent his entire life as a wood lot owner and tree farmer on the Hill.

1998 Sages

- **Harry Capron** of Boonville, for many years was a Town Councilman and Deputy Supervisor. Harry served as a Tug Hill weather observer along with former Commissioner Liv Lansing.

- **Dr. Edwin Russell**, while not a resident of Tug Hill is perhaps one of our most active seasonal residents and an advocate for the region. Doc Russell is a long-time member of the Fish Creek Club and an avid outdoorsman.

2003 Sages

- **John Hughes** (1913-2004) raised cattle in Highmarket along with his family. It is said that John had an insatiable hunger for Tug Hill’s big woods and the rural life.
- **Randy Kerr** (1924-2010) was a long-time Lewis County and State forester with love and knowledge of Tug Hill forests. In his spare time Randy was known to fiddle a bit.
- **Bernard Macklen** (1921-2007) lived and worked his entire life on his family farm in the Town of Worth. Bernard was a long time member of the Cooperative Tug Hill Council and Planning Board, Worth Town Board member and a Director of the South Jefferson Historical Society
- **Warren Mathis** is a long-time large landowner in the core of Tug Hill. He is a long-time member of Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust and NYS Forest Practices Board.
- **Robert Sauer** worked for many years as a forester and buyer for Harden Furniture and continues his avocation in retirement as a consulting forester. Bob is a former trustee and mayor of Camden, founding member of THRIFT, former board member of Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust and continues to serve as chair of Northern Oneida County Council of Governments.

2006 Sages

- **Ray Cheresnoski** (1940-2009) served as town justice and highway superintendent for Lorraine. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and recreationalist who was always eager to share his advice and knowledge of Tug Hill.
- **Charlie Gallo** of Camden is a Tug Hill native. Charlie, along with his brother Art, have stewarded and logged the Hill for decades in support of their timber business.
- **Neil** (1929-2007) **and Beverly Harden** (1929-2012) have represented a wonderful generation of the Harden family that has meant so much to Tug Hill for over 150 years. They have expressed their appreciation in many ways through generous philanthropic contributions to organizations in support of Tug Hill.
- **Louis Hodkinson** (1920-2009) hailed from Barnes Corners and always said that Tug Hill was his home and his passion. Louis and his wife Etheline ran their family bar and grill in Barnes Corners.
- **John Mahaffy** of Boonville is an artist and illustrator whose drawings and sketches have filled the pages of numerous books and novels about the landscape, people and history of the Tug Hill region.

2008 Sages

- **Irving Kraeger** is a successful dairy farmer and maple producer and served his town of West Turin as supervisor and County Legislator for 48 years.
- **Bernie Mettot** (1936-2011) served on the Town of Florence Recreation Commission in 1964 and then served as the Town Planning Board chair for 25 years. Bernie was a founding member of the Cooperative Tug Hill Planning Board and served on the council until his retirement in 2006.