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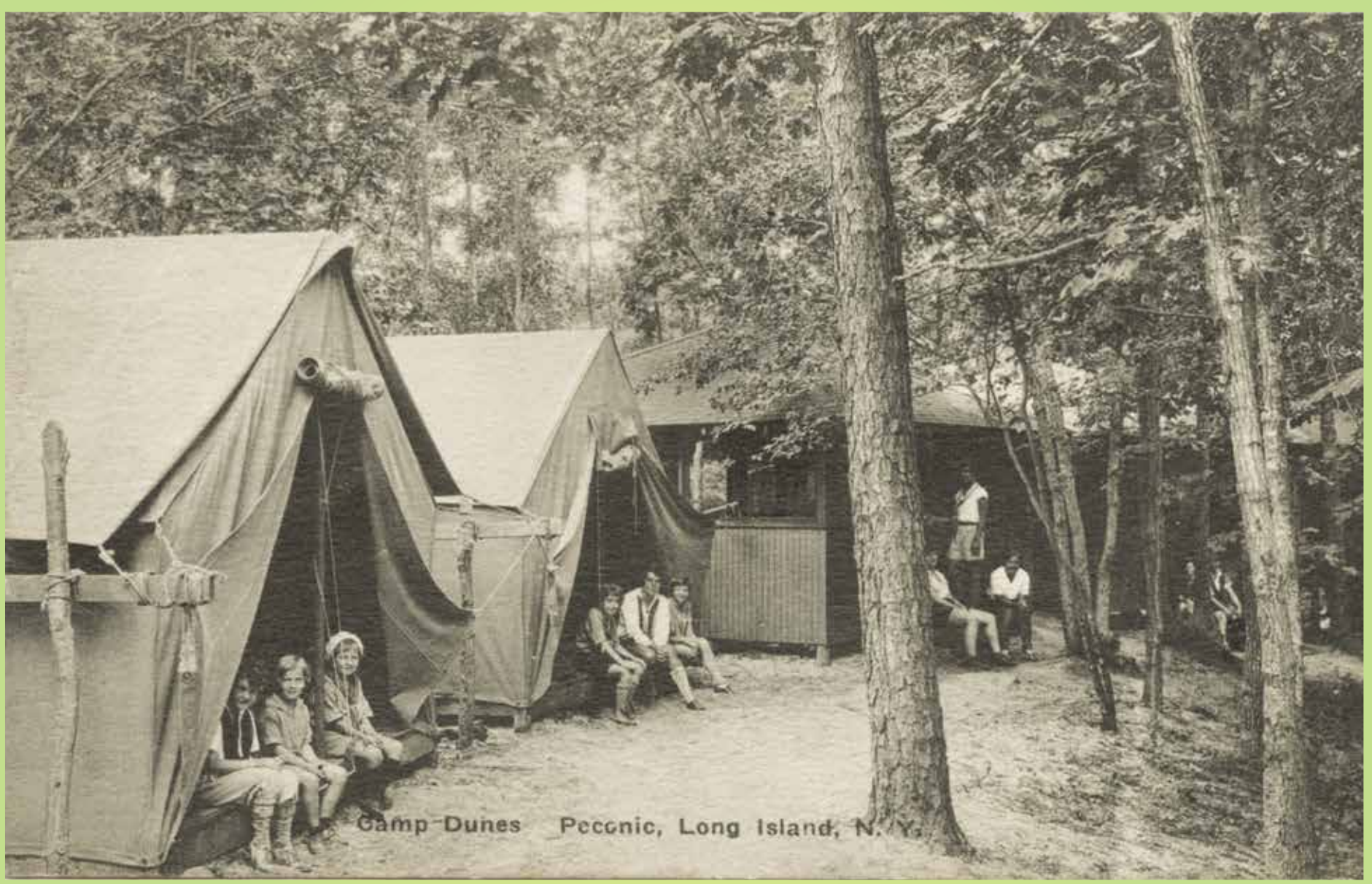
Peconic Bay SHOPPER

preserving North Fork history

September 2021



TOURIST CENTERFOLD MAP



PECONIC CAMP DUNES

“Lightly Row”

INSTALLMENT 3

Miss Mayme Tanner’s Primary Class



September Calendar of Events





Peconic Bay SHOPPER

...preserving North Fork History

publisher/editor — Michael P. Hagerman
art department — Rita M. Hagerman | rita.academy@gmail.com
sales — Chris Witzczak | chris.witzczak2017@aol.com



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42 Horton Lane - POB 848, Southold NY 11971
PH 631.765.3346 EMAIL rita.academy@gmail.com

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On our cover —

CAMP DUNES, Soundview Avenue, Southold, circa 1935.
Campers sitting on the wood floors of their tents, probably awaiting chow.

Peconic Dunes Camp was originated by a Jamaican woman doctor by the name of Willard in the mid 1920's with the intention of running it as a medical rehabilitation facility. Her plan was not successful, so she retained one acre of land for herself and sold the rest of the deed to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ward in 1931 and Pine Crest Dunes was founded.

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“Lightly Row”

INSTALLMENT THREE OF
Miss Mayme Tanner’s Primary Class
The Mattituck Public School
September 1897 – June 1898

by Jerry Matovcik, Reference Librarian, Mattituck-Laurel Library
and Joe O’Brien, Researcher

(Note to our readers: On the Mattituck-Laurel Library website under the “Research” link is the selection “Local History and Genealogy” which contains a collection of oral histories entitled *Back Over the Years*. You might be interested in reading some of these oral histories from which we have drawn information for this article.)



Near the turn of the century, when Miss Mayme Tanner was the primary school teacher, the Mattituck Public School offered two perennially enjoyable school activities, singing and outdoor play. In the morning the teacher would sit at the pump organ at the front of the classroom and the children would sing “Lightly Row,” a charming folk song that is still a perennial favorite:

*Lightly row, lightly row,
O’er the glassy waves we go!
Smoothly glide, smoothly glide,
On the silent tide!*

*Let the winds and waters be
Mingled with our melody.
Sing and float, sing and float
In our little boat!*

In the 19th century classroom there would also be a reading from the Bible in the morning and then lessons would begin. About 10 a.m. there was recess and the children could go outside and play. At the students’ disposal were two outhouses, three-seaters, one for the boys and one for the girls. At lunchtime, weather permitting, the children could eat outdoors, perhaps eating an egg sandwich or a peanut butter sandwich under a cedar tree. The chief game of the ten-year-old boys was “Prisoner’s Base,” fifteen or so on a side. The idea was to capture the members of the other team and put them in “prison.” If a member of the opposite team could cross over without being captured and touch a prisoner, the prisoner was “freed.” The whole exercise was rough work but also an exhilarating expenditure of energy. The older boys would try to impress the girls by jumping over a privet hedge, an activity against the rules that could result in a punishment of writing a hundred words after school (*Back Over the Years*. Ralph Tuthill, Volume 1).

In this turn-of-the-century school context, we present the next group of children, in alphabetical order, from Miss Mayme Tanner’s primary class. Their age as of September 1897 is in parentheses next to their name.

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The Grathwohl Brothers

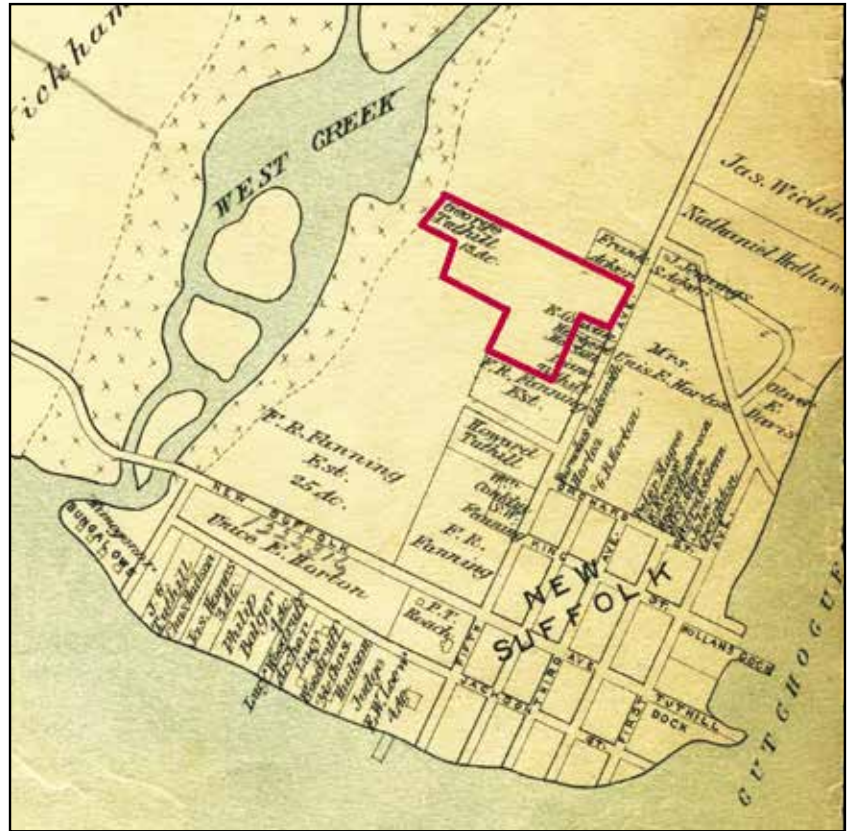
Fred Grathwohl (Age 11)

George Frederick Grathwohl was born September 5, 1886 at Mattituck, the son of Gottlieb Grathwohl and Mary End. Gottlieb emigrated from Germany to the U.S. about 1864 and was working, about 1870, for Oliver B. Corey, a produce broker in Southold. Gottlieb married another German immigrant, Mary End, from Baden, Germany, on December 10, 1871. Mary died December 17, 1899, a little more than a year after Fred and John attended Mattituck Public School. Gottlieb married Bertha Barth in 1903, and they moved to a farm on the Middle Road before 1910. Gottlieb died September 10, 1928 and he is buried with his wives, Mary and Bertha, at the Cutchogue Cemetery.

In May of 1911, Fred bought the house and barn of George I. Tuthill in New Suffolk with the intention of entering into the "chicken business." That fall, George B. Horton and his men built quite an addition on Grathwohl's barn, adding a room, an office, and extra stables. Fred later moved a good-sized building from the lower part of the village onto his place to be made into another chicken house. In June 1912, Fred married Elsie May Halpin and they had four children, starting with a set of twins: brothers Wilfred and Winfield.

Farming was not always idyllic for Fred especially in an era of wooden barns filled with hay. In April of 1920, one of Fred's six-year-old twins wanted to start a "barn fire" and he did, burning down a large barn and a good quantity of hay. In January 1935, an elderly stableman and farmhand, living in a room in Grathwohl's barn, died in a fire evidently started after he had fallen asleep with a lit pipe in his mouth.

Fred and his wife Elsie had a significant role in developing their area of New Suffolk. Grathwohl Road and George Road are named for George, in part because he gave the land



In 1911, George Fred Grathwohl purchased the house and farm of George I. Tuthill in New Suffolk [outlined in red above] with the intention of entering into the "chicken business." (The above map segment is taken from the E. Belcher Hyde 1909 Suffolk County, V. 2, Double Page Plate, No. 10., Courtesy of the Mattituck-Laurel Library.)

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Geo. F. Grathwohl : New Suffolk

The Watchman. Thursday, September 2, 1937

to provide roads for access to sub-divided lots. For a time there also existed an Elsie Lane and Fred Road as well.

John Grathwohl (Age 10)

John J. Grathwohl was born November 26, 1887 at Mattituck in Southold. As a young man, John worked as a laborer in Brooklyn. Unfortunately, John died in 1908 from Lobar Pneumonia, a fast acting influenza or tuberculosis that was untreatable at the time.

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Mary Greaves (Age 5)

Mary Greaves was the daughter of Frederick J. Greaves and Mary Ellen Stuart of Mattituck. Her father was a barber with his shop on the east side of Love Lane, just south of Dick Cox's confectionary store where Mary's friend, Myra Cox, lived. By 1909, the Greaves family moved to a new home they had built by Boss Charles M. Robinson diagonally across Main Road from the school and

adjacent to the new home of her classmate Lizzie Helfrich.

Above is a picture of Love Lane (then called "Railroad Avenue"), c. 1910. On the east side of the avenue (right), the second small building in, is the barber shop of Frederick Greaves. Barely visible on the extreme right is a section of the Octagon House. On the west (left) side is the Mattituck House hotel followed by the fruit and vegetable store of Harry DePetris and then the barns of the Riley brothers.

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If one zooms in on the east side of Love Lane, one can see the barber pole for the shop of Frederick Greaves.

Mary married Benjamin Harrison Mapes, May 27, 1918, at Cutchogue, the only classmates of Miss Mayme Tanner's class to marry. Harry became a plumber who eventually opened his own plumbing and heating business in Riverhead. Mary gave birth to five children, but, unfortunately, she died from complications two months after giving birth of her fifth child at the age of thirty-nine.

The Hallock Brothers

Walter and Milton Hallock were the only children of Otto Parker Hallock and Margaret Monford Wyckoff. Both brothers completed high school, a rarity for the period. In 1900, the family had a house on the south side of Main Road near Conrad Grabie's house and the 1776 house that was occupied by the Howells.

The mother of the Hallock brothers, Mrs. Margaret Monford Wyckoff Hallock, a Mattituck native, was a descendent of the New Amsterdam Dutch. Her father, Peter J. Wyckoff, was a direct descendent of the Peter Wyckoff who came to America from Holland in 1636 and settled in Flatlands, Brooklyn.

The Hallock and Duryee Fertilizer factory (c. 1885) in a part of northern Mat-



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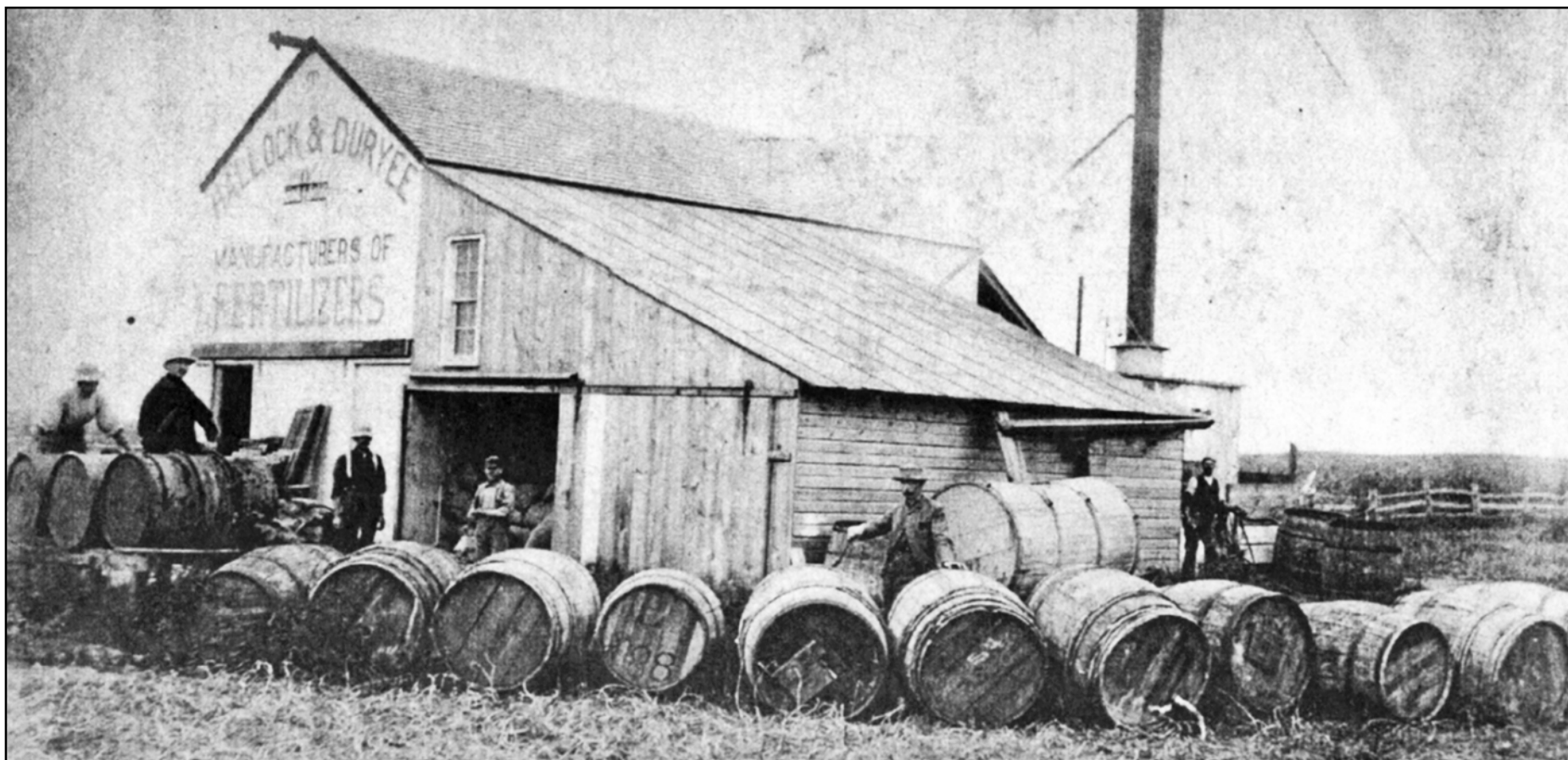
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tittuck known as "Oregon." The partners would eventually build a new factory in western Mattituck on a road that would ultimately be called "Factory Avenue." In late summer, when the season for fertilizer production was over, partner Peter Harvey Duryee would take up his other business of house painting.

The father, Mr. Otto P. Hallock, was engaged in the produce and coal business as well as other enterprises in Southold Town. Otto was a partner with Peter Harvey Duryee in the manufacture of fertilizers in the northern part of Mattituck known as "Oregon." The *Long Island Traveler* estimated in 1887 "that in one month in the neighborhood of one thousand tons patent fertilizers were sold in this little hamlet (of Mattituck) alone and the demand has kept up ever since" (The Mattituck-

Laurel Historical Society Scrapbook, p. 51). To help meet the demand, Hallock and Duryee opened a new factory in western Mattituck, in January 1889, with its own LIRR side track. Initially, they had a horse-drawn stone mill grinding up crustaceans (horseshoe crabs) to produce their fertilizer. Oyster shells were also ground at the factory for use by poultry farmers. The company was incorporated in 1891 and additional money became available to purchase more equipment, including a bone and corn grinding machine. In March and April of that year, the factory operated from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. For reasons unknown to us at this time, the Hallock-Duryee Fertilizer Company closed in January 1897 (around the same time that the school board had decided to add a second floor to the Mattituck Public School).

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MATTITUCK

The jollification at Hallock & Duryee's new factory Wednesday of last week was a grand success. About sixty couples were present. The music by Messrs. Kline, Hill & Gilbert was fine, the floors were in capital shape for dancing and everyone "got right in" and kept it up till a late hour in the morning.

Hallock & Duryee have a very fine building for manufacturing purposes. Three stories in height with cupola fitted up with the latest steam apparatus, new steam pumps, elevator, and with a very souvenir and handy side track of their own, which the Railroad company had three gangs putting in for them last Thursday and Friday. With all these facilities they are capable of handling a big amount of business and we wish the boys all possible success in doing so.



The Mattituck Cornet Band, c. 1890. Organized in 1884, the cornet band played at the opening of the Hallock & Duryee Fertilizer factory five years later. The band includes, from left to right, (first row) Professor George B. Reeve, Ernest (Peter) Terry, Wallace Tuthill, George Terry, Willis Tuthill, James L. (Jim) Reeve, **Otto Hallock**, and Lucius Young; (second row) E. V. Knipe, Oscar B. Robinson, **Peter Harvey Duryee**, Silas Howell, Eugene Robinson, Herbert M. Reeve, William V. Duryee, J. Wickham Reeve, Harry Lupton, and M.P. Goff.

Otto P. Hallock was immersed in the social and political life of Mattituck. He was one of the founders of the Mattituck Fire Department; he served on the school board; he was an officer for the Literary Society that held programs and dances at Apollo Hall; he was a musician who played the violin in chamber performances and the tuba in the Mattituck Cornet Band. Otto was also a Southold town trustee for a time. He was engaged in the Democratic Party and lost a bid to be elected town assessor in April 1898.

Continued on page 14...

A Long Island Traveler, January 1889 newspaper notice describing the grand opening of the Hallock & Duryee new fertilizer building on what would become known as Factory Avenue.



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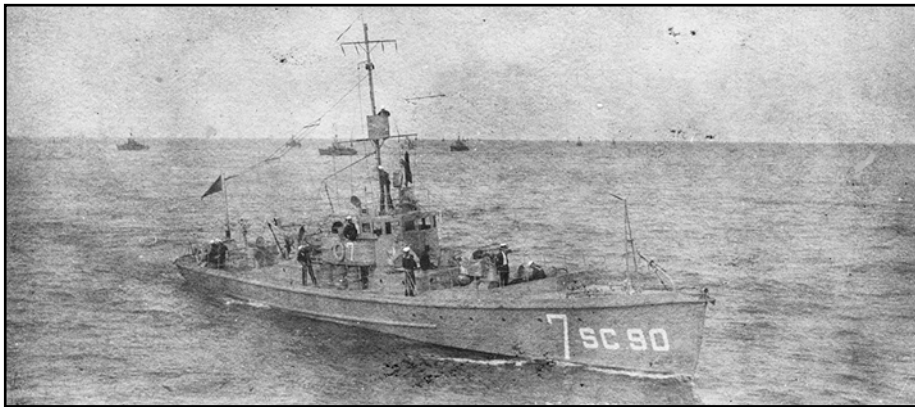





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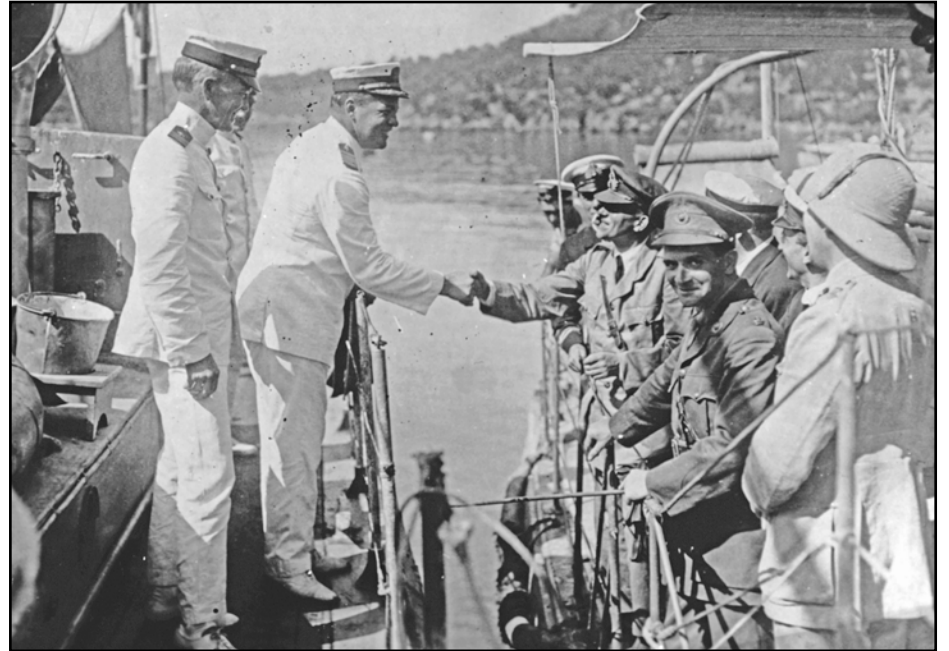
Milton Parker Hallock (Age 4)

Milton was born April 16, 1893 at Mattituck. In 1911, he took a job with the Abraham & Strauss Agency, which operated on Pike Street. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1917 and became a ship's cook. He served aboard a hospital ship and a submarine chaser. In November of 1923, Milton married Helen Austin Campbell, who had worked as a teacher and as a principal in Cutchogue in 1913. For a time, both Milton and Helen were engaged in hotel work in Riverhead. By 1939, Milton secured a job as custodian at the Riverhead Courthouse until the couple moved to Schenectady in 1942. Helen died September 2, 1953, and Milton passed away September 5, 1956, at Albany, New York. The couple had no children.



Walter Hallock (Age 8)

Walter was born February 19, 1889 at Mattituck. During World War I, he served on Submarine Chaser 90. Armed with depth charges, deck guns and an array of new, top secret submarine detection and pursuit devices, these miniature wooden war ships, the smallest commissioned vessels in the United States Navy, were the first major deployment mechanism for early antisubmarine warfare equipment, and were remarkable in their capabilities and service. Walter served on This Submarine Chaser 90 (SC 90), seen underway above in the Otranto Barrage, an



In his white uniform and shaking hands with an allied commander is Captain Charles P. Nelson, USN, Commander, Sub Chasers, Corfu, Greece, 1918.

allied blockade in the straits between Brindisi in Italy and Corfu on the Greek side of the Adriatic Sea.

In a letter mailed home on June 18, 1918 at Valletta on the Island of Malta, Walter told his parents that the submarine chaser on which he was serving had “bagged two subs.” He also suggested how difficult it was to serve on such a small wooden boat on the high seas: “While everything is going fine with me, there is one thing that there isn’t much fun and that is crossing the ocean in a 110-foot chaser. You don’t get much sleep or much to eat when the sea is rough.”

Walter also participated in the Otranto Barrage, a blockade intended to prevent the Austro-Hungarian Navy from escaping into the Mediterranean and threatening Allied operations there. The blockade was effective in preventing surface ships

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