

# The Eccentric Club

109 North Main Street  
Gloversville, New York 12078



*Constitution, By-Laws, House Rules,  
Membership Roll and Historical Articles*

SEPTEMBER 1, 2014

*Our 132<sup>nd</sup> Year*

Founded - 1882

Officially Organized - April 25, 1883

Incorporated - February 23, 1886



# The Eccentric Club

## **Officers 2014 -2015**

*President:* Michael Kicinski

*Vice President:* Colleen Leo

*Treasurer:* Elmer Washburn

*Secretary:* Patricia Beck

## **Board of Governors:**

Richard C. Smith

Scott Hohenforst

Robert Phillips

T. Samuel Hoye

Howard Samuels

Lorraine Diamond

Charles Tallent

George Ringland

Richard D'Elia

Donald R. Robbins

## **Executive Manager**

Jeff Graves

*Phone:* 518-725-1413

[eccentric@frontiernet.net](mailto:eccentric@frontiernet.net)

[www.eccentricclub.com](http://www.eccentricclub.com)

## Charter Members

*Organized 1883*

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Millard F. Button	Charles O. Mills
Alonzo Cohen	Samuel S. Mills
Howard G. Dewey	Albert N. Simmons
Henry Lebenheim	Alfred P. Williamson

## Presidents' List

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1883	Millard F. Button	1916	William H. Collins
1884	Millard F. Button	1917	Frederick L. Comstock
1885	Millard F. Button	1918	Charles L. Smith
1886	Millard F. Button	1919	Herbert D. Edwards
1887	Millard F. Button	1920	William S. Cassidy
1888	Millard F. Button	1921	Hiram Burton
1889	Jules A. Quackenbush	1922	Harry A. Wilson
1890	James R. Radford	1923	Harry A. Wilson
1891	Albert N. Simons	1924	Ralph E. Bradford
1892	Charles O. Mills	1925	Albert Arron
1893	Charles O. Mills	1926	Arthur B. Goossen
1894	Nicholas M. Banker	1927	Arthur B. Goossen
1895	J. Frank McKie	1928	R. Douglas Boyd
1896	George M. Place	1929	R. Douglas Boyd
1897	Asa B. Peake	1930	Arthur B. White
1898	Selah W. Hallenbeck	1931	Roscoe B. Trumble
1899	George M. Place	1932	S. Park Hallenbeck
1900	Howard G. Dewey	1933	Dr. William Kennedy
1901	George W. Mandrill	1934	Harold A. Bernard
1902	George W. Mandrill	1935	Bert S. Zimmer
1903	Frank Burton	1936	Earl W. Hathaway
1904	A. Delos Kibbe	1937	Arthur F. Peters
1905	William E. Mills	1938	Dr. Homer H. Oaksford
1906	William E. Mills	1939	George E. Powell
1907	William E. Mills	1940	George E. Powell
1908	William E. Mills	1941	John LaFabreque
1909	Fred E. Billingham	1942	Dr. Harry Denham
1910	Dr. Arthur C. Hagadorn	1943	Dr. Harry Denham
1911	William A. McDonald	1944	Carrol Batcheller
1912	Daniel McEwen	1945	Carrol Batcheller
1913	John B. Judson	1946	Harry Gill
1914	Seymour A. Casler	1947	Roscoe R. Stanyon, Sr.
1915	Frederick Ostander	1948	F. Law Comstock

**Presidents' List** *(Continued)*

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1949	Harland C. Warner	1982	Horace Van Heusen
1950	Dr. John C. Clemens	1983	Salomon Wise
1951	Eugene Hollenbeck, Jr.	1984	Robert Bisset
1952	A. Theodore Goossen	1985	Everett Weber
1953	Lydon F. Maider	1986	Dr. Ronald Berghoff
1954	Lennis J. Holloway	1987	Dr. Alexander M. Yvars
1955	Walter S. Mahoney	1988	Peter K. Smith
1956	Robert S. Rothchild	1989	C. Wellington Peck
1957	Edward F. Vonderahe	1990	Paul E. Boardway
1958	Alfred L. Batty	1991	Richard Washburn
1959	Harold H. Garonzik	1992	Dudley Ferguson
1960	Henry C. Tauber	1993	Theodore E. Hoye, III
1961	William B. Livingston	1994	Donald A. Johnson
1962	Dr. C. Harris Brown	1995	Elmer J. Washburn
1963	Richard B. Parkhurst	1996	Harold Remington
1964	Roger B. Haviland	1997	David R. Seward
1965	Elbert H. Heacock	1998	Carmel J. Greco
1966	W. Gordon Goff	1999	Robert J. Pelosi
1967	Alfred J. Washburn	2000	T. Samuel Hoye
1968	Joseph H. Tobin	2001	Michael C. Shrader
1969	John W. Finocan	2002	Michael C. Shrader
1970	Hon. Robert P. Best	2003	Richard Ruby
1971	Ralph O. Collins, Jr.	2004	Kathleen Marshall
1972	William H. St. Thomas	2005	Craig Jacksland
1973	Lois J. Castiglione	2006	Patricia J. Beck
1974	L. Joseph Morsheimer	2007	Timothy Delaney
1975	Theodore E. Hoye, Jr.	2008	Hon. Polly A. Hoye
1976	Arnold Smith	2009	Fred Olbrych
1977	Keith Berner	2010	James DelSavio
1978	Robert C. Maider	2011	Kevin McClary
1979	Hon. David F. Jung	2012	John Papa
1980	Charles Jenkins	2013	Richard C. Smith
1981	Nelson Jones	2014	Michael Kincinski

## Early Club History

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Being one of the few original members of the Club still living, I wish to make a brief record of its early history for the benefit of those who will come after.

The dates have been verified by reference to the newspapers of that day.

The Gloversville Intelligencer of March 18, 1882 carries this item: "A new club called "The Eccentrics" has been organized with rooms on the third floor of the Cohen Building. There are now fifteen members. They have a billiard room and nicely furnished parlor containing a piano and other pleasing attractions."

The Cohen Building is now the Trust Company Building at the corner of North Main and Church Streets. The furniture at that time was all second hand that had been gathered together by the members.

The name of the Club was suggested by the writer who got his idea from the book he was reading "Around the World in Eighty Days", by Jules Verne. The wager that led to this trip was made in a club in London called "The Eccentric Club".

In the fall of the next year (1883), the membership having increased, the club rooms were moved one door south to the third floor of what was then the Apfelbaum Building. The dues at the time were \$10.00.

Here new furniture was purchased and the rooms put on a better appearance. Here the club remained until the month of June, 1886, when it secured rooms on the first floor of the Cowles Building, 9 North Main Street at which time there were fifty-two members.

These rooms were fitted up especially for the club, and were handsomely furnished. A new billiard and pool table were also furnished.

At this time it was not an easy matter to become a member of the club as there were a number of different factions – the entire club voted for members and a few black-balls counted the names out, which resulted in many bitter contests.

## The Eccentric Club

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As the club grew it was found necessary to find larger quarters. And it again moved, this time to a new building built by Judge William C. Mills at the corner of North Main and Middle Streets, where it remained for sixteen years until the completion of the present clubhouse in 1908.

The little record now hanging in the club-rooms is rather misleading as the club was chartered in 1886 after moving to the Cowles Building and the names given are those who secured the charter all of whom were not original members of the club, since at that time there were over fifty other members.

*(Signed)* Asa B. Peake  
Gloversville, NY  
April 14, 1930



TEXT FROM FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1908

*The Gloversville Leader Newspaper*

## **Formal Opening of Club's New Home was Attended by Nearly 600**

*Eccentrics' Palatial Club House was Crowded by a Merry Throng Last Night - The Entertainment was Excellent and the Magnificence of the Structure was a Revelation to many - Something Concerning the Club from its Inception*

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Growing from a minor organization of about twelve members to a full-fledged, exclusive and widely representative club with a membership of 250, and a large waiting list, and graduating from humble quarters on the third floor of the Newman block on North Main Street, then occupied by Cohen Bros., grocers, to a palatial permanent home costing \$42,000, situated at the corner of Spring and North Main Streets – all occurring in the short space of twenty-five years – is the story of The Eccentric Club, the most popular organization in the city, which celebrated the formal opening of its new home in an auspicious manner last night.

Of the dozen men who formed the nucleus for this splendid organization, but six are now alive. They are M.F. Button, Howard G. Dewey, Henry Lebenheim, C.O. Mills, A.N. Simmons and A.P. Williamson, and if ever men had occasion to be proud, these six did last night when they were showered with congratulations by the 600 members and guests who thronged the spacious apartments at the club house.

The growth of the club at the start was nothing to boast of, but there was a consistency attached to its progress that predestined nothing if not a successful future. When the twelve men organized the club it was for the purpose of having a cozy place in which to congregate evenings and discuss current topics. This was in 1882. The quarters in the present Newman block were fitted out in a simple, but comfortable manner. Step by step the membership was increased and finally securing of larger quarters became the paramount issue. Desirable rooms were found in the upper floor in the building now occupied by E.S. Batcheller & Co., and for three years these constituted the home of the club.

The organization continued to grow and now had attained the reputation of being the most representative club in the section. Larger quarters were again found to be necessary and for five years following the club occupied the second floor of the Hill building. Then the change was made to the second floor of the Mills building at the corner of Middle and North Main streets, which were occupied for fifteen years, the club only deserting them within the month.

In these quarters the club entertained many prominent men including, President Roosevelt, Joseph G. Cannon, Chauncey M. Depew, and others, and here it also attained its greatest prominence.

Action toward the erection of the club's new home was taken in 1906, when a committee consisting of Hon. W. Ellison Mills, chairman; George M. Place, E.C.

Collins, Fred E. Billingham and Selah W. Hollenbeck, was appointed to take charge of the matter. Plans were asked for and a number of noted architects presented sketches, the committee finally choosing those submitted by F.L. Comstock of this city as being the most acceptable.

Ground for this structure was broken in the fall of 1906. A.E. Brace did the mason work, and Alden L. Henry had charge of the carpenter work. The building is of the most substantial and attractive in this section, and the magnificence of its interior has been fully outlined in *The Leader*. The furnishings are excellent and complete in every detail and were furnished by the Martin & Naylor Company, the Weed & Willoughby company and Jones & Baird. The wall decorations are the work of James Blockridge of Albany, and the electric fixtures were installed by the Fulton County Gas & Electric Company. The two pianos used last night were loaned by the fellows company of this city.

The building, brilliantly illuminated throughout, was a revelation to the many who thronged it last night. Gloversville's representative citizens composed the assemblage and the formal opening was the most important social function of years here.

Goulding's orchestra discoursed inspiring strains which penetrated the smoking and reception rooms on the first floor, and Kilmer's orchestra was stationed in the spacious ballroom and furnished music for the dancing. Both organizations rendered splendid concert numbers. The entertainment consisted of vocal solos by H.K. Tenney, piano selections by Miss Marguerite Fox, and readings and impersonations by Jessie Camp Ross of Troy. Their efforts were artistic in every sense and were highly enjoyable and heartily applauded. Many participated in the dancing, while others were amused at cards and at the pool, billiard and bowling games.

Among the out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Davey, Hon. John Sanford, John Barnes, Dr. A.D. Youngs, J.H. Platt and B.W. Simmons, all of Amsterdam, and representatives of the Colonial club of Johnstown.

Last night's function was in charge of a committee consisting of Charles L. Smith, chairman; Captain Asa B. Peake, Alexander Orr, Dr. Charles E. Pannaci, and Price W. Jones and they were literally showered with congratulations on the success of the affair.

The officers of the club are: President W. Ellison Mills; vice president, E.C. Naylor; treasurer, J.P. Heacock; secretary, Theodore R. Haviland; In conjunction with the above officers the following constitute the board of governors: House committee, F.E. Billingham, E.D. Shaw and C.L. Smith; Auditing committee, Melvin L. Bradt, Charles Adler, C.E. Pannaci; Literary committee, W.A. MacDonald, M.F. Drury and Price W. Jones.

They and the members also came in for their share of the many commendatory remarks passed, but the bulk of the congratulations fell to the lot of the building committee which is responsible for the erection of the splendid addition to the city's architectural master pieces.

# Constitution, By-Laws & House Rules

## THE ECCENTRIC CLUB

*Gloversville, NY*

### CONSTITUTION

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Adopted March 6, 1893; Amended April 6, 1896; April 5, 1897; November 26, 1897; April 27, 1898; May 1, 1905; February 25, 1907; April 6, 1914; April 7, 1919; April 5, 1920; April 2, 1923; April 4, 1927; April 1, 1929; April 7, 1947; April 5, 1948; April 2, 1951; April 4, 1960; April 2, 1962; September 15, 1965; December 11, 1968; April 5, 1971; September 11, 1972; April 23, 1973; April 15, 1981; April 20, 1988; April 17, 1991; November 3, 1993; April 27, 2005, April 10, 2013 and September 8, 2014.

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It is the duty of every member of this Club to be familiar with its Laws and Rules, and ignorance thereof shall never be admissible in excuse for any breach or neglect of the same.

#### ARTICLE I

##### NAME

The name of this Club shall be **The Eccentric Club**.

#### ARTICLE II

##### OBJECT and MISSION STATEMENT

**The organization of The Eccentric Club was created for the purpose of gratifying mankind's social instinct and enable its community's leaders and people of high character to meet on common ground. Our obligation to the membership and community alike is to maintain the historical and architectural heritage of our grand building and grounds, while endeavoring to honor the traditional values of our founding fathers.**

#### ARTICLE III

##### OFFICERS

*Section 1:* The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

*Section 2:* The President, Vice-President and Treasurer, together with ten other members, shall constitute the Board of Governors.

*Section 3:* The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be chosen at each annual meeting by ballot and shall continue in office until their successors shall be elected and shall have qualified. The Secretary shall be appointed by and hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Governors.

*Section 4:* At each annual meeting three members of the Club shall be elected by ballot as Governors for a term of three years and shall hold office until their successors shall be elected. The immediate past-president shall remain on the board as Governor for a one year term.

*Section 5:* The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club; he shall also be chairman of the Board of Governors and *ex-officio* member of all committees; he shall, with the Secretary, sign all written contracts and obligations of the Club and shall appoint the standing committees of the Board of Governors. The Vice-President shall discharge the duties of the President in his absence or during a vacancy in his office.

*Section 6:* The Treasurer shall collect and, under the direction of the Board of Governors, disburse the funds. He shall report at every annual meeting of the Club, and oftener if required, the state of the funds, and to the Board of Governors as often as requested. His accounts shall be audited by a select committee of three, appointed by the President at the meeting of the Board of Governors immediately prior to the annual meeting. If required by the Board of Governors, he shall give a satisfactory bond equal to the amount of money in his possession.

*Section 7:* The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Governors, shall notify members of their election, issue notices for all meetings of the Club and Board of Governors, conduct correspondence and keep the records, which records and correspondence shall be open to inspection by its members at all reasonable times.

*Section 8:* Any officer may be removed for cause at any meeting of the Club, but written notice shall be served on him personally at least ten days before such action is taken, and it shall require the affirmative vote by ballot of two-thirds of the members present for his removal.

*Section 9:* Any vacancy that may occur in the Board of Governors shall be filled by the Board, the members so elected to hold office until the next annual meeting, when the Club shall elect a successor to fill the unexpired term.

*Section 10:* At least fifteen days before the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a nominating committee, confirmed by the Board of Governors, of five persons, no more than two of whom shall be members of the Board of Governors, to place in nomination a slate of officers for the Club for the ensuing year, to be posted on the Club bulletin board at least ten days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the Club. Other names may be placed in nomination by five or more active members of the Club, but no person shall be eligible to hold any office unless his name, together with the title of the office for which he is a candidate, together with the names of his nominators, shall be posted on the Club bulletin board at least five days prior to the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE IV BOARD of GOVERNORS

*Section 1:* The Board of Governors shall have general charge of the affairs, funds and property of the Club. It shall carry out the objects and purposes thereof and make by-laws and, to that end, it may exercise all the powers of the Club subject to the Constitution, and to such action as the Club may take at its special or annual meetings.

*Section 2:* The Board of Governors shall have regular meetings at least once in each month and shall submit a report of the affairs of the Club at each annual meeting, and shall report at other times if required.

*Section 3:* The Board of Governors shall have the power to remit the dues of any member for such cause and for such period as in its judgment may be advisable and proper.

*Section 4:* At all entertainments or receptions held by the Club, the Board of Governors, in the name of the Club, may extend invitations to such persons as it may deem proper, provided that in issuing such invitations an equal member shall be allotted to each member.

## **ARTICLE V COMMITTEES**

*Section 1:* The President shall appoint the following standing committees: House Committee, Auditing Committee, Membership Committee, Entertainment Committee and Environmental Committee. The House Committee and Auditing Committee shall each consist of three members of the Board of Governors, but no person shall be a member of more than one of said committees. The Membership Committee shall consist of a chairman and one member, each of whom shall be members of the Board of Governors, and three Active Members of the Club who shall not be members of the Board of Governors. The Entertainment Committee shall consist of a chairman who shall be a member of the Board of Governors and such additional Club members as the Board of Governors may from time to time determine. The Environmental Committee shall consist of a chairman who shall be a member of the Board of Governors and such additional Club members as the Board of Governors may from time to time determine.

*Section 2:* The House Committee shall, subject to the control and direction of the Board, have charge of furnishing supplies, regulating prices of the same, employing servants and keeping the rooms of the Club in order for use, and enforcing the rules of the Club.

*Section 3:* The Auditing Committee shall audit all bills against the Club and, for each bill audited, issue an order on the Treasurer for the amount, retaining on file all bills it has passed upon.

*Section 4:* The Environmental Committee is assigned to report findings of the ground water contamination monitoring wells to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as agreed by schedule. This committee shall continue this practice until such time that when the State of New York no longer requires their monitoring.

## **ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1:* Membership of the Club shall be restricted to persons over twenty-one years of age and shall be divided into six classifications, namely, (1) Active, (2) Associate, (3) Junior, (4) Non-Resident, (5) Honorary, and (6) Life.

*Section 2:* Active members of the Club shall be the only class of members who shall be entitled to voting and other corporate privileges of the Club and their number shall be limited to 250. For applications received on or after December 1, 1993, active members shall reside within a 20-mile radius of the City of Gloversville, New York.

**Section 3:** Any resident of the County of Fulton, Montgomery or Saratoga who is not present in nor resides in such County for four (4) continuous months during the period commencing on September 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on April 30<sup>th</sup> may become an Associate member of the Club upon his election by the Board of Governors as hereinafter provided. Active members may become Associate members, if qualified, following application to and approval of the Board of Governors. Such application shall be made on or before September 1 of each year in which associate membership is requested.

**Section 4:** Any person otherwise eligible for membership who shall not have reached the age of thirty years shall be eligible as a Junior member. Junior members shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Club nor be entitled to hold office therein nor have any property rights in the organization.

**Section 5:** Any person residing outside a 20-mile radius of the City *limits* of Gloversville, New York shall be eligible as a Non-Resident member. Non-Resident members shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Club nor be entitled to hold office therein nor have any property rights in the organization. A person residing outside a 20-mile radius of the City of Gloversville, New York may apply for Active membership, but such application shall be subject to the limitation upon the number of Active members.

**Section 6:** The Board of Governors may from time to time elect to Honorary membership persons who occupy a position of eminence and who, from time to time, visit Fulton County. Honorary Members shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Club nor be entitled to hold office therein nor have any property rights in the organization.

**Section 7:** Any person who has been a member of the Club for fifty years may be elected to Life membership. Active Members who are elected to Life membership shall continue to have all the privileges of Active membership but shall not be counted as Active Members in computing the limitation of Active membership.

**Section 8:** No person shall be admitted to Active, Associate, Junior or Non-Resident membership in the Club unless he shall have been recommended by an Active member of the Club.

**Section 9:** The Membership Committee of the Board of Governors shall consider all applications for membership and communications in connection therewith and make careful examination as to the qualifications of the applicants. After approval by the Membership Committee, the names of all applicants shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the Club for at least ten days before any action shall be taken by the Board of Governors. After such applications have been posted for a ten-day period, the Board of Governors, at one of its stated meetings, shall pass on each application separately in the order in which they were made, and two negative votes shall constitute a rejection of any candidate. No person whose application is rejected shall be eligible for membership for a least one year thereafter. No member of the Board of Governors shall be excused from voting except by unanimous consent of the other members of the Board. The proceedings of the Membership Committee and of the Board shall be kept secret and confidential.

**Section 10:** Application of Junior Members for Active membership:

A: (1): Subject to the provisions of Subdivision 2 of this sub-section, a Junior Member shall be deemed to have applied for Active membership in the Club upon the attainment of his thirtieth birthday, which shall be the effective date of such application.

(2): Any Junior member may, at any time prior to the attainment of this thirtieth birthday, make application for Active membership in the Club. The effective date of such application shall be the date upon which such application shall be received by the Chairman of the Membership Committee.

B: If there be no vacancy in Active membership at the time when a Junior member shall make application for Active membership, he shall continue to have the privileges of the Club until elected to Active membership upon payment of dues as hereinafter provided.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **DUES and FEES of MEMBERS**

*Section 1:* Any member elected by the Board of Governors shall be admitted to all of the social privileges of the Club upon payment of the entrance fee and dues as established from time to time by the Board of Governors.

*Section 2:* The Board of Governors shall pro-rate any dues on a monthly basis in the event of election to membership at times other than during the months of March or September.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **RESIGNATION, SUSPENSION, and EXPULSION of MEMBERS**

*Section 1:* Any member may resign from the Club by submitting his written resignation to the Board of Governors, who shall accept such resignation upon such terms and conditions as it shall determine.

*Section 2:* The Board of Governors shall cause the Treasurer to give written notice to all members whose dues are in arrears for one month that, unless such dues are paid within thirty days after the date of such notice, such members will be suspended from membership in the Club. If such dues are not paid within thirty days after such notice, any such member shall be suspended, except under special circumstances satisfactory to the Board of Governors and approved at a regular meeting thereof.

*Section 3:* The Board of Governors may censor, suspend or expel any member for violation of the provisions of this Constitution or the By-Laws or House Rules of the Club or for conduct which, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, is improper and prejudicial to the welfare or reputation of the Club. No member shall be so censored, suspended or expelled except by affirmative vote by ballot of two-thirds of the Governors of the Club after written notice to the member of the charge or charges against him and an opportunity to answer such charge or charges.

*Section 4:* Any member who resigns or is suspended or expelled from the Club shall forfeit all voting and property rights in the Club. Any member, who resigns while in good standing and whose dues are not in arrears, may, at any time thereafter, apply for membership and shall be eligible for re-election to membership provided his application is approved

as provided by Section 9 of Article VI, without the obligation of paying the entrance fee required by either Section 2, 3, or 4 of Article VII.

## **ARTICLE IX GUESTS**

*Section 1:* The Board of Governors may designate certain social functions of the Club to which resident guests from Fulton, Montgomery or Saratoga County may be invited.

*Section 2:* A non-resident of Fulton, Montgomery or Saratoga County may be granted the privileges of the Club for a period not to exceed thirty days upon the invitation of a member thereof. The Board of Governors may provide and require such credentials as may be appropriate under the circumstances. Any member who requests such guest privileges shall be responsible for the payment to the Club of any obligations incurred by any person sponsored by him as a guest.

*Section 3:* The Board of Governors may, at the request of one or more members of the Club, authorize the use of the Club property and facilities by non-profit organizations for non-profit purposes within the following limitations: (a) Such use shall not interfere with normal Club activities; and (b) Such use shall be on such terms and conditions as the Board of Governors may determine, but in no event shall involve a surrender by the Board of Governors of the control of Club property or facilities.

## **ARTICLE X MEETINGS**

*Section 1:* There shall be an annual meeting of the Club for the election of officers and the transaction of other business, during the month of April of each year on a day at 8:00 p.m.; to be determined by the Board of Governors, upon giving of at least twenty days written notice to the members of the Club. At said meeting, the polls for the annual election shall be opened at 7:00 p.m., under the charge of two (2) tellers personally appointed by the President and shall remain open until 8 p.m., when the meeting shall be called to order for the general transaction of such business as shall come before it.

*Section 2:* Regular meetings of the Club may be called by the President, or shall be called by him at any time upon the written request of ten members, which request shall specify the object of the meeting.

*Section 3:* Forty (40) members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Club, and seven at any meeting of the Board of Governors.

## **ARTICLE XI CAPITAL FUND**

*Section 1:* 15% of all dues collected shall be placed in a fund entitled "Capital Fund". The Board of Governors shall have the authority to expend all or any part of the monies in said fund for the following purposes only: (1) expenditures for replacement, improvement, or addition to capital assets; (2) mortgage retirement.

*Section 2:* In the event that the Capital Fund exceeds \$7,500.00 at the end of any month, the 15% withheld from dues shall be reduced to 7-1/2% and the remainder will be retained for general expenses. In the event that the Capital Fund drops below \$7,500.00, the amount withheld from dues shall revert to 15%.

## **ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS**

Amendments may be made at any regular meeting of the Club, provided written notice of them, setting forth substantially the proposed change, shall have been given to the members and a copy of such notice posted on the Club bulletin board for at least 20 days before the meeting.

## **ARTICLE XIII GENDER**

The words "he", "him" or "his" shall also be read in the feminine gender whenever appropriate and when the sense of this Constitution may require it.

## **BY-LAWS**

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### **ARTICLE I**

The regular meeting of the Board of Governors shall be held at the Club rooms at such stated time as the Board may determine.

#### **ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR CLUB MEETINGS**

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
2. Report of Treasurer
3. Report of Secretary
4. Report of Board of Governors
5. General business

#### **ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
2. Reports of Treasurer and Committees
3. Unfinished business
4. Balloting for members
5. New business

### **ARTICLE II**

At meetings of the Board of Governors none but members of the Board shall be admitted except on invitation of the presiding officer, at the request of the Board.

### **ARTICLE III**

Special Committees for any purposes may be appointed by the presiding officer.

### **ARTICLE IV**

All votes and discussions on the subject of admission, expulsion and exclusion shall be held by the Board in honorable secrecy.

### **ARTICLE V**

Resident members shall be balloted for only at the regular monthly meeting of the board, provided however, that in the absence of a voting quorum, the president shall be empowered to call a special meeting, upon six days' notice, to take action on names of such candidates as shall be eligible at such regular meeting.

### **ARTICLE VI**

Only members of the Club shall be present at any of its business meetings.

### **ARTICLE VII**

Neglect on the part of any member of the Board of Governors to attend three successive regular meetings of the Board shall be deemed a tender of his resignation of office, but the Board may excuse any member for such neglect.

### **ARTICLE VIII**

Special meetings of the Board of Governors may be called by the president, or shall be called by him at the request of three members.

### **ARTICLE IX**

Amendments of the by-laws may be made at any regular meeting of the Board of Governors by the affirmative vote of at least seven members, but notice of the proposed alterations shall be sent to each Governor by the Secretary two weeks before such action.

### **ARTICLE X**

Cushing's Manual shall govern the meetings of the Club and Board of Governors in all cases when not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws.

### **ARTICLE XI**

The Board of Governors shall have full power to decide all questions not governed and determined by the Constitution and By-Laws.

# HOUSE RULES

(Updated 11/12/2012)

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1. Members of the Club shall familiarize themselves with the Constitution, By-Laws, and House Rules, and accord a ready and courteous acquiescence to all their provisions, and ignorance thereof shall never be admissible in excuse for any breach or neglect of the same.
2. No member shall take from the Club any paper, periodical or property belonging to, or in possession of the Club.
3. Any property of the Club broken or injured by a member shall be paid for by the member as soon thereafter as its value can be determined.
4. The employees of the Club shall be under the control of the House Committee and no orders or reprimands shall be given them except by members of such committee, to whom all complaints shall be made.
5. No profane language, or conduct unbecoming ladies or gentlemen, will be tolerated in the Club rooms.
6. Any of the House Rules may be suspended at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Governors.
7. Alterations of, or additions to, the House Rules may be made at any meeting by a majority vote of the Board of Governors.

## 8. Private Function Policy:

**The Eccentric Club** is available on a rental basis **to members for *their* private parties**, receptions, business entertaining, other organizations to which they belong, subject to the following conditions and approval of the Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors believes a valuable part of club membership is the privilege of sponsoring a private function at the club. The Board wants to emphasize that only members, not necessarily associates of members, are granted this privilege. Any community member who is so inclined to “rent” the facility should be encouraged first to apply for membership. The Board of Governors has the right to reject a private function application sponsored by a member for the primary benefit of a non-member.

**The following policies have been adopted by the Board of Governors:**

- A. Members wishing to utilize the Club for private functions must make application to the club manager. The Board of Governors will review the application for approval to ensure the following house rules are complied with and that the date of the function does not interfere with any club functions.
- B. Members must be in good standing in order to sponsor a private function at the Club. Such member **must attend the function and be financially responsible** for all associated expenses and sign the Club's Private Function Agreement.
- C. A rental fee schedule is established from time to time by the Board of Governors. The fee is in discretion of the club manager and Board of Governors. The fee is commensurate with costs associated with the particular event.
- D. Any special needs for additional staff, equipment, decorations, moving of Club property or other special requests not normally provided - may be provided only at the **discretion** and upon **approval** of the club manager and Board of Governors.
- E. It is the policy of the Board of Governors of The Eccentric Club to require, at all times, **strict and full compliance** with the laws and regulations of the State of New York with the use and consumption of alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic Beverage Control Regulations provide that all alcoholic beverages served at a private party must be provided by the Club.
- F. Breakage or damage to Club property caused by a guests or caterers at a private function will be the responsibility of the host, to be billed at repair or replacement cost.
- G. Any inquiries not covered by the above policies may be directed to the Club manager, who will take up the matter with the House Committee for their review.
- H. A copy of the Club's Private Function Policy will be provided to any member wishing to host a private function at the Club, and all members are deemed to agree to its terms upon scheduling an event.







## *The Eccentric Club*

109 North Main Street  
Gloversville, New York 12078