MEMORIES of a CHATEAUGAY FARM BOY

by

JAMES MICHAEL MEAGHER, JR.

COPYRIGHT 2009 BY CHATEAUGAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

These stories written by James Michael Meagher, Jr., are reprinted by permission of the Meagher family.

The stories and photographs may not be reprinted in any form without written permission of the Meagher family.

Illustrations by Cindy Recore ©2009 Composition by Write One, Chateaugay, New York

Edited by the Chateaugay Historical Society Publication Committee

COVER: Jim Meagher with his dog, Tango, at the farm on the No. 5 road, February 1922.

Published by

CHATEAUGAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHATEAUGAY. NEW YORK

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to Julie Meagher Greene, for whom these stories were written, and to her daughter, Ella D'Avignon Greene, born June 5, 2009.

Preface

The idea for this book came from the desire to depict Chateaugay's rural life and its rich history. When the Meagher family donated Junior's stories, they became the perfect vehicle to illustrate life in the 1920's and 1930's. He entitled his stories and sketches "Grand Tales for Grandchildren." They include memories of farm life, school days, and booze-running.

James Meagher, Jr., had an illustrious career that took him to live throughout the U.S., but he remained a Chateaugay farm boy at heart. His career is summarized in a brief biography, and his daughter Julie shares some of her memories, both chapters in this volume. A few family photos are also included.

The Publishing Committee of the Chateaugay Historical Society owes special thanks to Julie Meagher Greene, Marilyn Meagher, and Joan Meagher Corrigan for making this book possible. Thanks also goes to Cindy Recore for enhancing the stories with her illustrations.

Table of Contents

Grand Tales for Grandchildren	1
The One-Room Schoolhouse	3
Ice Harvesting On The Farm	13
The Booze Cars	19
The Carriage House	31
Hired Men	39
Meagher Family	47
Biography of James Michael Meagher, Jr.	49
Julie Meagher's Memories of Her Father	53
Descendants of Patrick Meagher	57
Meagher Family Photos	59

Grand Tales for Grandchildren

by

James Michael Meagher, Jr.

Editors Note: James Meagher, Jr., titled his collection of stories "Grand Tales For Grandchildren."