

# PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER



One of Valley Stream's most memorable characters, Wat Howe, began publication of "The Outlaw" on January 12, 1923. His motto, printed on the front page, was "Justice to All and Malice Toward None--If We Like 'Em". He needed public officials he didn't like in a way to make most politicians shudder. Small in size, 5 1/2" x 7", "The Outlaw" sometimes carried as its masthead the aphorism, "It is an axiom of science that nothing is less perfect for being small."

VOLUME 9, NO. 4

JANUARY, 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
January 20, 1982

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream



## COVERED DISH SUPPER

As mentioned in the last issue of PANORAMA, the COVERED DISH SUPPER this year will not be served until 7:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a WINE and CHEESE HOUR from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Please bring in a generous covered dish in accordance with the following assignment:

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Last names from A to G: | Vegetable content, hot or cold, such as salads, casseroles, etc.                |
| Last names from H to O: | Dairy-type foods (eggs, cheese);<br>Gelatins, fruit;<br>Fish, hot or cold       |
| Last names from P to Z: | "Starchy" type, hot or cold; this might be potatoes, beans, rice, noodles, etc. |

Casseroles should be brought in hot. While we have facilities to keep them warm, we cannot heat them thoroughly if they are brought in frozen or cold. Please do not bring meat or meat-content dishes. The Society will provide this portion of the supper, as well as bread, butter, coffee and tea. Following the meal, a good-will offering will be accepted to defray this expense. Dessert will be provided by cake donations by members of the Executive Board in lieu of covered dishes. After supper, there will be a short business meeting, followed by two Charlie Chaplin movies--"The Tramp" and "The Fireman." A delightful way to start off the new year!

\* \* \*

"Winter, a bad guest, sitteth with me at home;  
blue are my hands with his friendly hand-shaking."

Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE  
Valley Stream, New York  
Permit #924

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P A N O R A M A  
c/o 29 Cambridge Street  
Valley Stream, New York 11581

"AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL"...

865 Founders Path  
Southold, N. Y. 11971  
10/17/81

Dear folks,

I moved to V. S. in 1909 and at that time there were about 1,200 people and 60 to 80 commuters. At one time we farmed the land where you now live.

John Bunny was a silent movie star, a comedian. I saw a number of his pictures. He bought a hotel just south of the railroad tracks (which were on the ground in those days), from a man named Chris Schrieber. We used to see J. B. on the porch of the hotel and he'd often say hello to us. He passed away after living only a couple of years in V. S. His widow sold the place to a man by the name of Pitney, who owned it for many, many years.

I never knew Texas Guinan, but saw her a number of times. Her favorite greeting at her nite club was "hello, sucker." She had her place at Merrick and Central Avenue. It was built by a man named Hoffman, who originally owned the Pavillon Royal where Guy Lombardo really got his start. Texas Guinan was followed by a chap called Will Oakland, a radio personality whose favorite song was "When Your Hair has Turned to Silver."

I knew John T. Mohr personally, also his sons John and Gus. Mr. Mohr used to deliver 5 gals. of kerosene to our house for 65¢. (Editor's note: Mr. Mohr's picture appeared in November's PANORAMA.)

I have all my grade school pictures from Dist. 24 - 1915-1922. Thought you might like to have them some day. If you'd like to have me give a little talk on V. S. in the old days, come Spring, I'd come to one of your meetings. Wish I was closer so I could attend.

I lived in V. S. from 1909 to 1954, except for about 5 years when I moved away twice.

I hope you will keep up the good work. It's a joy to "reminisce" about V. S. I remember when Dr. Clarke moved to V. S. His dad was a N.Y.C. fireman. Say hello to Howard R. for me. With best wishes.

Sincerely,  
Ernest H. Tempel

#### REAR WINDOW

Happy New Year to all! We do hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season.

It was such a pleasure to receive Mr. Tempel's letter. He was the first to respond to our request in the last issue of PANORAMA. Since then we have also heard from Mr. Richard Brown and will publish his letter in subsequent issues. A hearty THANK YOU to both gentlemen for taking the time to share their memories with us.

We hope most of you saw Claire McMahon's letter in the MAILleader last month regarding the museum. For those who did not, it, too, will appear in another issue.

There has been such favorable response to Al Mayernik's Long Island history items that we're hoping he'll be coming up with many more. There was a nice mention of his displays in the Waldinger Library in their column in the MAILleader.

Speaking of the Library, we are so appreciative of their interest, support and assistance and thank everyone involved, especially Mr. Botwinik and Mrs. Stibitz.

We hope that Mr. Tempel's letter will inspire more to you to write down your thoughts. Please send them to the address shown at the top of this page.

#### MEETING SCHEDULE

This is the schedule of our meetings for the rest of this season:

February 17 (Program about N.Y. "Els")  
March 16 (Tuesday) Dulcimer demonstration

April 21  
May 19  
June 16

Better mark these dates on your calendars right now--Audrey and Jim Boerckel have lined up some not-to-be-missed programs for us again this year.

# PANORAMA



**NEWSLETTER**

On March 10, 1968, the Valley Stream Public Library was renamed the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library of Valley Stream in memory of the first mayor of Valley Stream and a dedicated public official for over three decades. "Uncle Henry" died in 1966.



HENRY WALDINGER

VOLUME 9, NO. 6

MARCH, 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday,

March 16, 1982

8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

## P R O G R A M

Another fascinating evening in store for us. Mrs. Alfred Weiss and her son, Martin, will play handmade dulcimers, a guitar type of instrument. Mrs. Weiss will also relate interesting facts about this old-time instrument. Mrs. Weiss's father has made several dulcimers, one of which is now in Japan. History buffs and music lovers will especially enjoy this program (along with all us just plain folks!).

Our volunteer cake donors for this meeting are Jean Naef, Marge Dalton, Agnes George, Audrey Boerckel, Mog Finkenstadt. Thank you, ladies!

\* \* \*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On April 20 at 7:30 p.m., Al Mayernik will present his program "The History of Long Island Through Stamps" at the Henry Waldinger Memorial Library. He also presented this program not too long ago at the Long Island Philatelist Show, so if you missed it there, here's another chance for you and your friends to see it.

## WORTH REPEATING

"Give me a fish, and I will eat for today; teach me to fish, and I will eat for the rest of my life."

(Ancient Proverb)

dul-cim-er (dul'se-mēr), n. [OF. *doulcimer* < L. *dulcis* = *melos*; *dulce*, noun of *dulcis*, sweet + *melos* < Gr. *melos*, a song, strain], 1. a musical instrument with metal strings, which are struck with two small hammers by the player. 2. in the Bible, the psaltery, a kind of harp: see Dan. 3:10.



DULCIMER

## REAR WINDOW

Our program on the New York "ET's" last month was certainly a winner. (Some members remarked that they were surprised at the amount of air pollution in those days.)

Mog Wellington writes from Florida that she is feeling much better. Right on, Mog!

Sincere sympathy to the O'Neill family on the death of their beloved mother, Mary Jane O'Neill. The widow of Dr. Laurence O'Neill and a well-known Villager in her own right, Mary Jane was the first woman president of the Gibson Civic Association, as well as being an organizer and moving force behind the march to Albany last year regarding property assessments.

Congratulations to member, Marianne Goetz upon her election of "Elks Mother of the Year."

Another interesting letter about Valley Stream has been received from Mr. Ernest Tempel and it will appear in a future issue of PANORAMA.

\* \* \*

## QUITE SO

"When once the itch of literature comes over a man, nothing can cure it but the scratching of a pen." - Samuel Lover, 1797-1868, Irish novelist, portrait painter and song writer.

1982

WILLIAM O. STRIS  
41 PARKWOLD DRIVE, EAST  
VALLEY STREAM, N.Y. 11580

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE  
Valley Stream, New York  
Permit # 984

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P. O. Box 1181  
29 Cambridge Street  
Valley Stream, New York 11581

"AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL"... (continuation of letter received from Richard H. Brown)

I never had contact with Frank Slaughter, the author, though I know he lived for a time in Valley Stream and I had occasion once or twice to meet him through a fellow attorney, Judge Lyman Hall. He had not then attained the popularity which later came to him as a result of his novels.

But, Valley Stream should know and cherish the rising star in the American literary field, Mary Gordon, for she is truly a Valley Stream product. Her mother is Anna Gagliano Gordon, of a family which has lived on Bismark Avenue from way back. (The 'gli' is soft--one must have some Italian blood to get one's tongue properly around that syllable.) When I came to Valley Stream, the Gagliano girls were popular favorites.

Anna became a legal secretary and for years ran the office of Brown and Herman, for she was a capable manager and not a bad lawyer herself, though she held no law degree and was never admitted to practice. But most successful law offices have one or more capable secretaries upon whom to rely, and she was, and is, one of the best. Rather late in her girlhood, she met, at a Catholic retreat, a gentleman named David Gordon, and they were married. He was a scholarly, sensitive man and they were happy during a brief married life, which, unhappily, ended in Mr. Gordon's illness and death not too many years after the birth of their only child, Mary. Mary was brought up by her mother in their home on Bismark Avenue, some reflections of which can be seen in her writings. The home atmosphere was devoutly Roman Catholic, which also marks Mary Gordon's style. She was a solemn, serious child, always devoted to books and reading; eventually she went to Columbia. She became a teacher at the college level, meanwhile doing some writing and living for a time in England. Then, a few years ago (in 1978 to be exact), there was published a first novel under the title "Final Payments," which climbed rapidly on the best seller lists and made the writer famous. It is widely regarded as something more than a 'popular novel', for it depicts an American Catholic society with more faithfulness and success than is found in the ordinary popular novel. More recently, in 1980, a second novel 'The Company of Women' confirms the opinion that Mary Gordon writes from a comprehending mind and an understanding heart about a segment of American society which has not heretofore been treated with the skill that it warrants.

Meanwhile, Mary had married and is now Mary Gordon Cash. Her husband is a teacher of literature in the State University at New Paltz; and not long since, a daughter arrived, named Anna Gordon Cash, after her grandmother. This little girl has something to live up to!

(To be continued)

\* \* \*

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

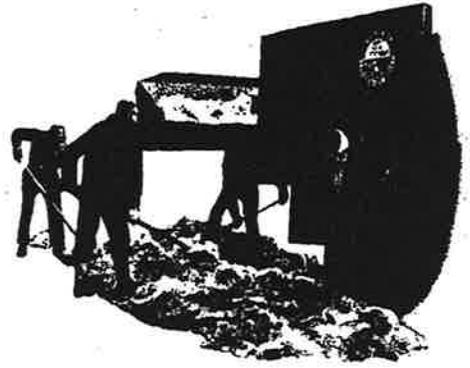
Accompanying this newsletter is official announcement of our 1982 Super Flea Market. Each year this community event becomes increasingly popular and there is every indication that another success is ahead. Tell your friends and neighbors - then buy, sell, or do both! Like the flyer says... "Come one - come all!!!"



# PANORAMA



**NEWSLETTER**



Highway and Parks Departments service and maintain over 90 miles of roads, all Village-owned parks, parking fields, bandshell and Village Green. Tons of snow are plowed and taken from business streets--alas, even in April 1982!

VOLUME 9, NO. 7

APRIL, 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
April 21, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

## PROGRAM

Tonight we'll have a return visit by member Frank Duffy, who will tell us "Little Known Facts About New York Harbor." A fascinating subject about a fascinating city.

Lavinia Rasweiler has promised to share some of her memories about old-time days in Valley Stream during our reminiscence segment of the evening.

Cake donors for this meeting are: Emma Bitowski, Mildred Schiller, Ruth Anholzer, Lil Weaver and Teresa Rung. Muchos gracias, ladies!

A nicely planned meeting. Do come!

\* \* \*

We wish to thank Gerard Nicoletti, a young resident who brought in bottles he found while digging in his backyard. They were of various sizes and unusual shapes, and one was from Mueller's Corner Drug Store, so you know they went back many, many years. We appreciated Gerard's coming to the March meeting and wish him well in the next adventure of his life as a member of the United States Navy. Anchors aweigh!

## REAR WINDOW

The dulcimer demonstration last month by Mrs. Alfred Weiss and her son, Martin, was so entertaining. The instruments were made by Mrs. Weiss's father, one of them being the very first one he made. They are guitar-like instruments, rather than like the one pictured in the March PANORAMA. Theirs are the West Virginia Mountain dulcimers and have three strings that are plucked with a pick. A mighty-pleasing-to-the-ear program!

Donations are needed for the Society's table at the Flea Market on May 2. Also, volunteers are needed to store the items, as well as manning the table on the day of the Flea Market. Please advise Claire McMahon if you can be of help.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Rae Gubitosi, as well as the Italian-American Civic Association. A most dedicated member of the community, she will be sorely missed.

Noel Wendel has opened a new beauty shop on Central Avenue, next to the bicycle shop.

Congratulations to Emma and Ed Bitowski, again! New grandson, courtesy of daughter Dale and her husband Bob Waltz. Their son has received the Teacher of the Year Award for Industrial Arts - nationwide! And, Emma received four out of five prizes for her entries in the Patchogue Doll Show recently. Whew!

We will have the use of the Nassau County calliope for the Flea Market. Sweet music while you buy/sell. What more could one ask?

HAPPY PASSOVER!  
HAPPY EASTER!

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE  
Valley Stream, New York  
Permit #924

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P A N O R A M A  
c/o 29 Cambridge Street  
Valley Stream, New York 11581

April 20, 7:00 p.m., Waldinger Library - Al Mayerniks' "History of Long Island in Stamps"

BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayernik

The Dutch Settlement of Long Island

When Henry Hudson returned to Holland in the "Half Moon" in 1609, his cargo consisted of furs, mainly beaver and mink. The Dutch East India Company established a temporary post, Fort Nassau, a little south of today's Albany, to trade for furs with the Indians.

In 1621 the Dutch government, the Lords States-General, gave a charter to a new company, the Dutch West India Company, with the right to control all the trade by Dutchmen along the eastern coasts of both Americas and the western coast of Africa and to govern that area, holding all legal rights except the power to declare war.

In 1624 the Company sent the first boatload of settlers to Fort Orange (today's Albany): 30 families of French-speaking Calvinists. In 1625 the Company's first Governor of Nieuw Nederlandt, Peter Minuit, bought Manhattan Island from the Indians and built a fur trading post, Fort Amsterdam. Soon other fur trading posts were established along the Connecticut and Hudson Rivers. The Dutch West India Company considered the fur trade as its main purpose and did comparatively little to encourage settlement.

A modern historian, Barbara Stankowski, claims Maspeth (Maspeth) was the first settlement to be established on the shores of the Maspeth and Newtown Creeks. In 1640 the Rev. Francis Doughty brought a group of settlers fleeing from the religious intolerance of Taunton, Massachusetts to Maspeth, and received a grant of land which included most of today's western Queens County. Three years later many of these settlers were massacred in an Indian uprising and their village was put to the torch.

A few families continued to cross over from Manhattan and slowly western Long Island was settled. Breuckelen (Broken Land), today's Brooklyn, was settled about 1645. Gravesend was founded in 1643 by Lady Deborah Moody and her followers who were excommunicated from the Puritan Church in Massachusetts. Vlissingen (Flushing) was also founded by English settlers in 1645.

Boswijck (Town of the Woods) today's Bushwick, was chartered by Peter Stuyvesant in 1661. Soon Dutch names were scattered on the map of New Netherland. Konijn Eylandt (Rabbit Island) is today's Coney Island and Vlackte-Bosch (Wooded Plain) is now Flatbush. Nieuw Utrecht, Haarlem, Wall-boght (Wall-about), Staaten Eylandt, Kill van Kull, Breede Weg (Broadway), The Bronx, named after a Danish farmer Jonas Bronck, who settled in the Dutch territory in 1639, Hellegat (Hell Gate) and Spuyten Duyvil (in spite of the Devil) are a few Dutch names still on the land.

There was little or no Dutch settlement on the central and eastern portions of the Island. When the English took over the colony in 1664, there were only 8,000 settlers in the former possessions of the Dutch West India Company and, of these, only 5,000 were Dutch.

(to be continued)



THE VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
F L E A M A R K E T

Date: Sunday, May 2, 1982  
(Rain date, May 9th)

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Place: Hendrickson Park Parking  
Lot, Merrick Road on  
North Franklin Avenue

Free Admission and Free Parking

Vendors call:

825-1526 (bet. 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.)  
825-4199 (bet. 9 a.m. & 8 p.m.)



# PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER

## FIRST TELEPHONE INSTALLED IN 1896



It was a beautiful Decoration Day in 1896 when the connection was completed; there was much commotion and blowing of horns. The first telephone of record to be installed in Valley Stream was in Joseph Felton's store on Central Avenue and Merrick Road.

VOLUME 9, NO. 8

MAY, 1982

### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
May 19, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

### PROGRAM

"The Valencia Theatre:  
Then and Now"

Mr. F. Warren Hiltonsmith of the Wantagh Preservation Society is favoring us with another slide/lecture, this time about a famous landmark that holds memories of a much different era.

Preceding Mr. Hiltonsmith's talk, a most enthusiastic former Valley Stream resident, Mr. Ernest H. Tempel of Southold, will share more of his recollections of the Valley Stream he knew. One of Mr. Tempel's letters appeared in PANORAMA a couple of issues ago and his second letter appears elsewhere in this issue. We have thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated his writing and are certainly looking forward to meeting him this month.

If you miss this meeting, it's your loss!

And, our cake donors for this meeting are: Elizabeth Kuberman, Dorothy Smith, Mildred Donahue, Florence Gunther, and Barbara Ehlinger. Thank you!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Ted Libath, Chairman, Jim Boerckel and Wilbur Fare submitted the following slate:  
President - Claire McMahon  
Vice President - Bob Presbrey  
Recording Secretary - ?  
Treasurer - Mildred Zulch  
Corresponding Secretary - Marge Dalton  
3-Year Trustees: Emma Bitowski, Jim Boerckel, Alphonse Mayernik  
1-Year Trustees: Audrey Boerckel, Lil Weaver, Evelyn McQuade

As you will note, we still need someone for the office of Recording Secretary. Nominations will be accepted up until the voting time at the May meeting. (Some of the members being nominated for Trustees will gladly step aside for someone else who would like to become actively involved with the Society. Try it; you might like it.)

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody asked Anybody.

We have been invited to march in the Memorial Day Parade on May 31. It starts at the west end of town this year. See you there?

## BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND - by Al Mayernik

### Dutch Contributions to America

In spite of the short time they owned New Netherland (about 50 years), the Dutch left a permanent imprint on New York and America itself.

Immediately, one thinks of Santa Claus and the hanging of stockings (or placing wooden shoes) before the fireplace on Christmas Eve. And the goodies inherited from the Dutch: cookies, doughnuts, crullers...and cole slaw.

Some Dutch words, with changed spellings, were added to the American language: boss, stoop, crib, spook, scow. One should not forget those Dutch sports: bowling (nine-pins) and ice skating. The Dutch farmhouse style of architecture with its overhanging eaves exists today in the original and in copies, repeated over and over by real estate developers. And the Reformed Church is still active.

But the greatest gift was religious and ethnic toleration--a most unusual condition in the American colonies during the 17th century. New Netherland had a mixed ethnic population. Since 1640 English colonists from Connecticut crossed the Sound to settle on Long Island; others fled from Puritan Massachusetts. Walloons (Dutch of French extraction), Germans, Finns, French, Jews and Negro slaves came gladly or against their will. Governor William Kieft told the French missionary Father Isaac Jogues (now a canonized saint of the Catholic Church), that 18 languages were spoken at or near Fort Amsterdam.

With the many nationalities came many different religions. A reluctant but necessary toleration to other religions existed despite occasional opposition of the clergy of the Dutch Reformed Church. However, the ultra-autocratic Peter Stuyvesant disliked any form of dissent and the Quakers were, to him, extreme dissenters and potential rebels against his rule.

In 1645, Flushing received a charter which guaranteed to the townspeople liberty of conscience without molestation or disturbance. In 1657, the English Quakers of Flushing drew up a protest against Stuyvesant's order forbidding them to hold meetings, the famous Flushing Remonstrance. The Remonstrance stated that the Governor had no right to deny them freedom of religion. Stuyvesant paid no attention to the protest.

John Bowne, a resident of Flushing, married a Quaker and permitted his wife and five other Quakers to hold meetings in his home. In 1662, Bowne was arrested. Bowne, after refusing to pay a fine, was imprisoned and went on a hunger strike. The situation was now embarrassing to the Governor, who gave orders to leave Bowne's cell open, hoping he would walk out and end the problem. Bowne stayed in prison.

Bowne was then deported to Europe. The Directors of the Company, upon receiving Stuyvesant's report of the banishment, issued in April 1663 the order establishing religious liberty in New Netherland on the grounds that "people's consciences should not be forced, but everyone left free to his belief." Stuyvesant had lost. John Bowne returned to Flushing.

The Remonstrance which insisted on freedom of conscience and John Bowne's courage foreshadowed New York's leadership in the truly American concept of religious freedom and conscience.

\* \* \*

### AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL - (Another letter received from Mr. Ernest H. Tempel)

I wonder how many people remember that there were a couple factories in Valley Stream in the early teens thru late teens? One called "The Model Brassiere Factory" was on Jamaica Ave. between Rockaway & Grove St., about the middle of the block, right opposite the Lutheran Church, that really was only a basement with a roof on it. It employed a lot of the local young ladies. The church was built in 1914.

The other was a dye factory just east of the W. Hempstead branch of the LIRR, which was on the ground in those days. Now, I'd say, it would be between Cottage St. & Satterie Ave. Most of the employees were deaf mutes who lived in a row of cold water flats behind the hotel owned by Adam Langraber, now the Valley Bank site. The flats were 2 story, 1st floor about 4 steps below the street; second 4 or 5 steps above the street. They were on Hawthorne Ave. A man by the name of Leon Stark built them out of cement blocks. He was

# PANORAMA



**NEWSLETTER**

## SUMMER CONCERTS



The Valley Stream Community Band and the Valley Stream District Symphony Orchestra have conducted weekly concerts of classical, semi-classical, marching and Broadway show selections at the bandshell since 1955. Always a lovely way to spend a summer's evening.

VOLUME 9, NO. 9 Village picnic is on July 11th. We will have our usual tent and will need cup cakes and books to sell. JUNE, 1982

### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
June 16, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

### PROGRAM

Short Business Meeting  
Installation of Officers  
Chinese Auction  
Strawberry Festival

Our final meeting for this season will find us enjoying two more of our annual events--a Chinese Auction and a Strawberry Festival.

And, as usual, we are asking for as many donations of good white elephant items as possible--the more prizes, the more chances to win. Bring them along the night of the meeting, and wrapped mystery prizes will add more fun.

The ladies who have volunteered to bring cookies or plain cake to go with the strawberries and ice cream are: Ruth Anholzer, Rose Bouffier, Florence Murphy, Dorothy Sheridan and Margaret Warrell. Our thanks to all of you.

Three cheers for Al Mayernik, Ernest Tempel and Richard Brown for their historic contributions!

**PRESIDENT** Claire McMahon wishes to convey her sincere thanks to all vendors, contributors and shoppers at our Flea Market in May. Could not have been as successful without any of you!

**REAR WINDOW** - Frank Duffy's program on the Port of New York and Mrs. Lavinia Rasweiler's reminiscences at the April meeting were very much enjoyed by all. The May meeting was equally pleasurable with Mr. Hiltonsmith's slides of the Valencia and other landmark theatres throughout the country, and Mr. Ernest Tempel's recollections of the Valley Stream he knew so well were indeed a treat.

**HELP WANTED** - Al Mayernik would like to borrow and photograph a map of Valley Stream published in 1924 by Hughes and Cinquin, Brooklyn. If anyone can loan him one, it would be appreciated.

Also, we are always looking for items for the Memory Lane column in the MAIL-eader. Please send them to Mrs. Audrey Boerckel, 127 Carpenter St., VS 11580.

**THANK YOU** to Eileen Brennan and to Lil Weaver for their help with the PANORAMA mailing during this past season. Truly appreciated!

Evelyn McQuade  
Editor

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:** Please fill out the form below and return with your check to the address shown. Also, advise us of any errors on mailing label on reverse side.



VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
123 South Central Avenue  
Valley Stream, New York 11580

1982 MEMBERSHIP FORM  
EXPIRES JUNE 1983

I have marked my category below. Please send my  
 New  Renewal

TO: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_  
Hobbies and/or special interests \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Individual..... \$ 3.00
- Student..... 1.00
- Contributing..... 7.50
- Family..... 10.00  
(four or more members of one family)
- Organizational..... 15.00  
(clubs, business organizations, etc.)
- Sustaining..... 50.00  
(tax exempt gift)
- Life..... 100.00  
(tax exempt gift)

Membership paid by  Cash  Check

Date \_\_\_\_\_

AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL - (continuation of a letter from Richard H. Brown)

While we are talking of Valley Stream literary figures, one who should not be forgotten is Frank Yerby, who lived in town for a short time in the 1940's-50's. Partially of African blood, which by itself would have made him a prominent figure in the Valley Stream of that day, he was a modest, likeable man who would occasionally accept an invitation to talk about writing before some of the local societies. He depreciated his own abilities, confessing that his forte was the devising of plots, which when put on paper needed polishing by his wife, upon whom he declared he heavily depended for things like grammar and style.

Mr. Yerby had a checking account in the Valley Stream National Bank of that day, the President and Chief Executive of which was the late Herbert L. Morris. One day Mr. Morris observed Mr. Yerby at a desk in the lobby, apparently somewhat bewildered. Ever ready to help a friend and depositor, Mr. Morris left his office (in those days just to the right of the front door), and said, "Can I help you, Mr. Yerby?" Yes, it seemed Mr. Yerby had a problem about having a check cashed. "Well, that need not be troublesome," said Mr. Morris, "how large is the check?" "I should think it rather large--here it is," said Mr. Yerby, and he produced a check to his order from his publisher for \$46,673.16, the first, but not the last check for royalties from "The Foxes of Harrow," which went on to become both a best seller and a highly successful motion picture. Before Mr. Yerby left the bank, he and Mr. Morris decided the check should be split up to give Mr. Yerby enough cash for his immediate modest needs, bolster his checking account and to establish a substantial interest account. A topic for discussion among the tellers for some days!

The California movie makers realized Mr. Yerby had a Dumasque talent for creating exciting plots, and not long after "The Foxes of Harrow" became a resounding success, he moved to Hollywood and continued his writing career to the enrichment of the motion picture field and, I trust, his own.

Frank Slaughter, the author, also lived in Valley Stream for a time, but I never had much contact with him, having met him one or two times through a fellow attorney, Judge Lyman

Hall. He had not then attained the popularity which later came to him as a result of his novels. (Editor's note: Al Mayennik is trying to research Frank Slaughter's days in Valley Stream and would appreciate hearing from anyone who can remember him or anything about him.)

\* \* \*

#### A FATHER'S LEGACY

When I am gone, it makes no difference what becomes of the material things I have accumulated in this world. But there is a wealth that I would like to leave behind with my children. If I can accomplish this, my life will have been profitable beyond any treasure that money can buy.

I hope to leave my children with a sense of their own worth in this world. I want them to value their own lives as the precious possessions they are, that they may live the fullness of their days in a way that makes life more full for those around them.

I want to leave my children an appreciation of work--not just for the earnings work can bring--but work for work's sake. There have been few times in my life when I have been happier than when deeply involved in what I thought to be a worthwhile task.

And I want to leave them the ability to let go, to be a little foolish, sometimes. I want them to be able to look in the mirror once in a while and have a good laugh at themselves.

I want to leave them with a curiosity that never dwindles with the mounting years a sense of wonder, a childlike ability to believe--to believe in believing.

And I want to leave my children with the knowledge that they were loved completely, always, no matter what courses their lives were following.

I want to leave them love, that it may become the central force in their lives, flowing outward, flourishing wherever life may lead them. Love that they will pass on as a legacy to their children, to their children's children.

Dean Walley

(Mr. Walley's beautiful "legacy" was contributed to PANORAMA by Miss Thelma Leventhal of Brooklyn. It's a gem, Thelma. Thank you!)

Valley Stream Historical Society  
PANORAMA  
c/o 29 Cambridge Street  
Valley Stream, New York 11581

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE  
Valley Stream, New York  
Permit #924

Mr. William P. Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, N. Y. 11580

# PANORAMA



## NEWSLETTER

### LITTLE THINGS

Little drops of water,  
 Little grains of sand,  
 Make the mighty ocean  
 And the pleasant land.  
 Thus the little minutes,  
 Humble though they be,  
 Make the mighty ages  
 Of eternity.

Julia A. Fletcher

VOLUME 10, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER, 1982

### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
 September 15, 1982  
 8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
 Valley Stream

### PROGRAM

#### "FAMOUS LONG ISLAND RESIDENTS AND THEIR HOMES"

Another Ray Chambers program to start off our new season. His slides will feature homes of Louis Armstrong, Jackie Robinson, Charles Lindburgh, George M. Cohan, Lillian Russell, John Phillip Sousa, F. Scott Fitzgerald--to name just a few. Ray will also tell us interesting anecdotes about the houses and their owners. The Chambers' programs are always worth seeing and hearing.

\* \* \*

**HELP WANTED** - Two volunteers are needed to take charge of our coffee and cake service following the meeting. This can be a couple or two women or two men. You will be "shown the ropes" and have much assistance.

What every organization needs is...

### CO-OPERATION

It ain't the guns nor armament,  
 Nor funds that they can pay,  
 But the close co-operation,  
 That makes them win the day.

It ain't the individual,  
 Nor the army as a whole,  
 But the everlasting teamwork  
 Of every bloomin' soul.

J. Mason Knox

\* \* \*

### REAR WINDOW

President Claire McMahon shouts a big THANK YOU to all the people who helped out at the Village Picnic. Our tent was very successful and the baked goods were a big hit. Couldn't have done it without you folks!

Sincere sympathy to Anna Brown on the death of her sister and our member, Etta Bergler.

An Assistant Editor is needed for PANORAMA. Interested parties should give their names to Claire at the meeting.

All who have not yet renewed their membership should do so by the October meeting. After that, names will be dropped from the mailing list. We'll miss you!

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:** Please fill out the form below and return with your check to the address shown. Also, advise us of any errors on mailing label on reverse side.



VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 123 South Central Avenue  
 Valley Stream, New York 11580

1982 MEMBERSHIP FORM  
 EXPIRES JUNE 1983

I have marked my category below. Please send my

New  Renewal

TO: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

Robbles and/or special interests \_\_\_\_\_

- Individual ..... \$ 3.00
- Student ..... 1.00
- Contributing ..... 7.50
- Family ..... 10.00  
 (four or more members of one family)
- Organizational ..... 15.00  
 (clubs, business organizations, etc.)
- Sustaining ..... 50.00  
 (tax exempt gift)
- Life ..... 100.00  
 (tax exempt gift)

Membership paid by  Cash  Check

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# PANORAMA



**NEWSLETTER**

VOLUME 10, NO. 2

OCTOBER, 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
October 13, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

⇒ (Please note change  
in meeting date.)

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

## PROGRAM

"Victorian Architecture  
in  
Long Island Rail Road Stations"

Mr. Vincent Seyfried, an authority on Long Island and a Long Island Rail Road historian, will share his knowledge of our railroad at this meeting. His appearances before other organizations have been well-received and tonight it's our turn to hear first-hand some data that Mr. Seyfried has amassed over the years, enabling him to write a number of books about The Long Island Rail Road. All aboard!

\* \* \*

Our call for hosts/hostesses to take charge of the refreshment table at the meetings was graciously answered by Nan Miller and Jean and Fred Maef. Many thanks!

And our cake doners for October are: Ruth Anholzer, Laura Lindner, Ruth Hohwiessner, Eileen Brennan and Lazetta Bragelli. Another thank you!

\* \* \*

Our meeting is being held earlier this month because of the Church Fair at Holy Trinity on October 21st and 22nd. Why not drop around and patronize this nice parish whose facilities are so perfect for our meetings.

\* \* \*

The next meeting of the Tenth Anniversary Planning Committee will be held on October 21st, 8:00 p.m., at the home of Anthony Fiero, 15 Sylvan Place, V. S. Anyone who would like to work on this important event is cordially invited.

## HOUSEKEEPING TIPS

CARL BUCHELE

Cake will not get stale if kept in a bright-colored box in the children's room.

Books on scientific topics will remain in better condition than whodunits.

Scratches on floors can be concealed nicely with Oriental rugs.

To keep children from listening to your conversation, direct it at them.

A quick-acting remedy for housewife's aching back is a suggestion to eat out and take in a show.

Children will not track their muddy feet through the kitchen if the front door is kept unlocked.

Woolly dresses are fine for removing dog hairs from chairs and sofas.

## AH, YES, I REMEMBER IT WELL

When I came to Alden Terrace from Cambria Heights in 1940, most of the area was used for farming. Our street was Kaplan Avenue, named for the builder. Later it became Alden Avenue. In those days everyone walked or rode a bike. The Alden Terrace bus ran every hour as far down as Clarendon Drive.

My Mom walked over to Valley Stream Central High School after we moved in, thinking this would be the school I would attend. The principal said we were out of the district and that I would have to attend Sewanhaka High School in Floral Park! To go there I had to take two buses and walk a mile!

When summer came each year, my sister and I got up early to go swimming in Valley Stream State Park. (If you arrived before 9:00 a.m. you didn't have to pay the 10¢ admission fee.) We rode along Central Avenue, passing an old farmhouse with a cow on the front lawn. Later the large supermarket was built on the property. All along Hendrickson Avenue tomatoes were growing. We would cut through Mary Street and then walk the bike across a stream which is now on the west end of Memorial Junior High's field.

When I married, I moved into the Village and my three daughters attended Central High.

Submitted by Mrs. Charles Wisniewski, the former Pauline Hood, who resided in our area for 39 years and now makes her home in North Salem, New York.

\* \* \*

A magnificent exhibition of artifacts entitled INDIANS OF LONG ISLAND will be on view at the Hewlett-Woodmere Park Library during the month of October. These items are from the unsurpassed collection of the Museum of the American Indian, which contains what is unquestionably the world's finest collection of artifacts dealing with Indians of the United States. The collection is brought to several public libraries and museums in Nassau and Suffolk counties through the generosity of the New York Council on the Arts.

Mr. William O. Stein  
 41 Westwood Avenue East  
 Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580

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Valley Stream Historical Society  
 P A N O R A M A  
 c/o 29 Cambridge Street  
 Valley Stream, New York 11581

A TASTE OF HISTORY - In the first of a monthly series on the history and preparation of traditional American foods, recipes that were created from American products, with American know-how, and have stood the test of time, the following appeared in Ella Elvin's column in the Daily News on September 29th:

Who invented pineapple upside down cake? Its invention had to relate to the availability of the first canned pineapple. The folks at the Dole Pineapple Company said, "Jim Dole graduated from Harvard in 1900 and decided to go to Hawaii. He tried unsuccessfully to raise coffee there, then shifted to pineapple, despite the fact that local people told him the fruit would not succeed. In 1903, he harvested a crop that gave him 1,300 cases of canned pineapple -- 1,300 cases is one hour's production in the plant today. In 1925, Jim decided to have a recipe competition and he ran an ad in nine women's magazines. More than 60,000 recipes were sent in and 2,500 were for pineapple upside down cake."

In a sense, those contestants were updating the skillet cakes of the pre-Victorian period. These cakes were made with apples and cherries and baked on top of the stove in a cast-iron skillet. Food historians claim that skillet cakes were popular with many--and there were many--who did not have a bake-oven.

It intrigued Miss Elvin to note that the winner of the 1925 contest added maraschino cherries after the cake was turned out. Apparently the idea of placing them in the center of the pineapple slices before the batter was poured on came later.

1925 Winning Pineapple  
 Upside Down Cake

- 2 tablespoon Butter
- 1 cup Brown Sugar, packed
- 1 large can sliced or crushed Pineapple, drained
- 1/2 cup Butter
- 1 cup Sugar
- 2 Eggs, separated
- 2 cups Sifted Flour
- 2 teaspoons Baking Powder
- 1/2 teaspoon Salt
- 1/2 cup Milk
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla

In a large frying pan, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Spread brown sugar over pan. Arrange drained fruit over sugar.

In a bowl, cream butter, gradually add sugar, beating until light. Beat in egg yolks, 1 at a time.

Sift flour with baking powder and salt and add to creamed mixture alternately with combined milk and vanilla, beginning and ending with flour.

In a bowl, beat egg whites until they hold soft peaks. Fold these into cake batter, using a cut-and-fold-motion, with a rubber spatula. Pour cake batter over fruit.

Bake in a moderate 350-degree oven for 45 minutes. Turn upside down on a serving dish and garnish with maraschino cherries. Whipped cream may be spread over top.

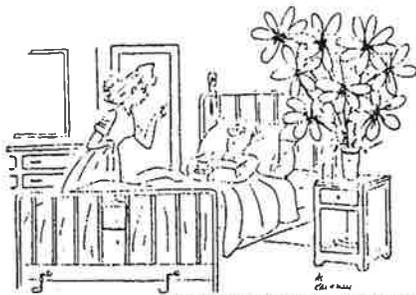
\* \* \* \*

We'll be interested in hearing from those who try this recipe.

(Mr. Entenmann, step aside!)

\* \* \* \*

ALWAYS LEAVE THEM LAUGHING



"Are you sure you're taking that vitamin prescription?"



"Everyone in there is on the wrong train, Frank-- Hey! You're not Frank!"

# PANORAMA



**NEWSLETTER**



"What calls back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie?"

John Greenleaf Whittier

VOLUME 10, NO. 3

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,  
November 17, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall  
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street  
Valley Stream

## PROGRAM

### "HISTORY OF LONG ISLAND IN STAMPS"

Our own historian, Al Mayernik, will present a revised version of his popular program, which has been so well received by philatelic and other diverse groups in the area. Bound to be a painless way to bone up on Long Island history via Al's personable presentation.

Cake donors for this meeting are: Adele Hagmann, Mildred Donohue, Jean Naef, Marjorie Kraengel, Dorothy Smith, Caroline Young. Thank you all.

\* \* \*

IN SEARCH OF... Albert and Alia Pfaffenzeller, who in 1936 resided at 367 Emerson Place. Adele Hagman, our "Roots" chairman, has received a letter from a Mr. Anderson, who is a cousin of the Pfaffenzellers and is trying locate them and another relative, Thomas White of Lynbrook, who had a business in Valley Stream. The Pfaffenzellers did have children; perhaps someone in the Society remembers the family. Please do let Adele know if you have any recollections of the Pfaffenzeller family and/or Mr. White.

\* \* \*

Anyone seeking information about the Society, or having constructive suggestions for the betterment of the Society, can contact our President, Claire McMahon at 561-9879.

\* \* \*

WORTH REPEATING... "The wise man forgets insults as the ungrateful forgets benefits."  
(Chinese Proverb)

## REAR WINDOW

Our last two programs on Long Island Residents and Their Homes by Ray Chambers and Victorian Architecture in Long Island Rail Road Stations by Vincent Seyfried were just super. And it's nice to know that some of the homes and stations are still standing.

It's great to see Father Schneider of Holy Trinity out and around again after his hospital stay. A votre sante, Father!

Guests at our October meeting were Harriet Mitchell and Louise Biamonte.

Congratulations to Lil and Drew Weaver on the birth of their first grandchild--a boy; and to Claire and Tom McMahon on the birth of their granddaughter.

Member Louise Carducci has graciously volunteered to donate the door prize for our November meeting--a ceramic Christmas tree. How very nice, Louise!

Many Society members were spotted at the V. S. Central High School Alumni meeting at the American Legion on October 23rd. And without the hard work of our Bert Keller none of the large reunions or the Alumni Association itself would ever have come to fruition.

There have now been several meetings of the planning committee for our 10th Anniversary celebration next spring. If you would like to be a part of this committee, please contact Claire McMahon by telephone or at our meeting on the 17th. Bert Keller is also looking for some home-grown talent for this event, so if you can carry a tune or dance a few steps, now is your chance to strut your stuff!

\* \* \*

NOT FAR OFF... is our annual covered dish supper - January 19, 1983, to be exact. Full details will appear in the January issue of PANORAMA, but to give you a bit of advance notice, the assignments are as follows: Last names from A-G: "Starchy" type, hot or cold; this might be potatoes, beans, rice, noodles, etc; H-O: Vegetable content, hot or cold, such as salads, casseroles, etc; P-Z: Dairy-type foods (eggs, cheese); gelatins, fruit; fish, hot or cold.

\* \* \*

Valley Stream, N. Y. 11580  
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P A N O R A M A  
123 South Central Avenue  
Valley Stream, New York 11580

BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND  
by Al Mayernik

Toward Separation

Remember the term from history class, "period of salutary neglect?" (Salus (Latin) = health.) It was the time from the mid-1600's to 1765 when England was too busy fighting wars, mostly with France, to govern adequately its American colonies. In this "healthful" atmosphere of little government, the colonies had to learn to govern themselves and this they did very well indeed.

When England tried to pay for the wars and to raise a standing army in the Americas, Parliament proposed that the colonies share the burden. After all, argued Parliament, the colonies benefited by having the French driven from North America.

But immediately, the voices of objection were heard throughout the colonies. Most of the wars had started on the European continent and spilled over into America; therefore, England benefited greatly by the colonies' assistance. The cry "no taxation without representation" rose. England claimed the colonists were represented in Parliament since each MP was a representative "at large" and therefore represented the entire Empire. But the colonists were angered at the many laws concerning them, passed by a Parliament totally ignorant of the colonists' needs.

The Stamp Act was passed by Parliament in 1765 to pay for a standing army based in the colonies, nominally to protect them from Indian raids on the borders. Some suspicious radical Americans saw it as an army to suppress colonial liberties. The Act put a tax on newspapers, pamphlets, legal documents, including wills, insurance policies, ship's papers, licenses, including marriage, dice and playing cards.

Protest followed protest; Sam Adams in Massachusetts, Patrick Henry in Virginia. The Sons of Liberty were organized to oppose the Act throughout the colonies. Protests included the burning of the hated stamps and tar-and-feathering of stamp agents.

On November 1, 1765, the effective date of the Act, a torchlight procession marched down Broadway in Manhattan carrying effigies of Lt. Governor Cadwallader Colden and the Devil. Not long after this, Zacharias Hood, a stamp officer, was pursued to Flushing, where he tried to take refuge in the Lt. Governor's summer home. Hood was seized, taken to Jamaica, forced to resign and compelled to swear loyalty to the colonies.

The Sons of Liberty of Oyster Bay later wrote to the New York City Sons of Liberty approving the action taken by them against the Stamp Act. So intense was colonial opposition to the Act, including boycott, the Act was repealed by Parliament in March 1766, but in later years Parliament passed further laws which violated the colonists' concept of "no taxation without representation."

\*\*\*

(to be continued)

JUST A LITTLE MIXED UP

Just a line to say I'm living;  
That I'm not among the dead;  
Though I'm getting more forgetful,  
And more "mixed up" in the head.

For sometimes I can't remember  
When I stand at the foot of Stair,  
If I must go up for something,  
Or I've just come down from there.

And before the "Fridge" is so often  
My poor mind is filled with doubt,  
Have I just put food away or  
Have I come to take some out?

And there's times when it's dark out,  
With my nightcap on my head,  
I don't know if I'm retiring,  
Or just getting out of bed.

So, if it's my turn to write you,  
There's no need in getting sore,  
I may think that I have written  
And don't want to be a bore.

So remember that I love you,  
And I wish that you were here;  
But now, it's nearly mail time,  
So I must say "Goodbye, dear".

P.S.  
Now I stand beside the mailbox  
With a face so very red,  
Instead of mailing you my letter—  
I've opened it instead.

— Author Unknown

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...



VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 23, 1983

at the

Elks Club

Buffet Supper - Entertainment

(Details to follow)

HOLIDAY GREETINGS to all from the officers and trustees of the V. S. Historical Society.

