

### NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 17, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

### PROGRAM



William M. Wheeler, Tuskegee Airman and World War II Fighter Pilot.

Wheeler was born in Detroit, Michigan and attended Howard University. In 1941 he volunteered to become an Army Air Corps pilot and was inducted into the service in March, 1943.

He completed basic training at Keesler Field in Biloxi, Mississippi and was transferred to the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama to begin flight training. Upon completion in March, 1944 he qualified as a single engine fighter pilot with the rank of lieutenant. Wheeler completed combat fighter training at Walterboro Army Air Corps Base in South Carolina where he trained in the Curtiss P-40 Warhawk and Republic P-47 Thunderbolt. He completed a course in bombing and aerial gunnery at Eglin Army Air Base, Florida.

Wheeler continuously fought against the discrimination he encountered and as a consequence was arrested. He dealt with his frustration by flying under bridges, zooming low on highways causing cars, buses and trucks to stop or drive off the road. His exploits earned him the name "Wild Bill."

In August, 1944 Wheeler saw service overseas as a replacement pilot for the 332nd Fighter Group located at Ramitelli, Italy where he flew the P-51D Mustang on combat missions over Germany, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Albania and Greece escorting bombers and strafing enemy troops, supply lines, airfields and military vehicles. He is credited with destroying 3 bombers, 2 Heinkel HE-111's and a Junkers JU-52.

Among his commendations are the Air Medal, the European/African/Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, American Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Victory Medal World War II, Victory in Europe Commemorative Medal, World War II Victory Commemorative Medal, D-Day

Commemorative Medal, the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross and the Village of Hempstead Medal of Honor.

Refreshments will be provided by Carol McKenna, Agnes Libath and Marge Chvatal.

### PASSINGS

Frances Holz, widow of Dr. Wilbur G. Holz, in Goshen, New York on January 21, 2005. Dr. and Mrs. Holz resided on DuBois Avenue in Valley Stream. Prior to her moving to Goshen, Mrs. Holz was a contributing member of the Society.



### GEORGE IS BACK

Visit the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration on February 20, 2005 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and see a genuine article of Washington memorabilia. No! We will not tell you what it is. You have to come and see it for yourself. Members of the Society will be dressed in period costumes.

LOVE IS LIKE THE SUN COMING OUT OF THE CLOUDS AND WARMING YOUR SOUL (UNKNOWN)

### Did You Know?

- 2,2 million marriages take place in the US annually.
- 138,600 marriages were performed in Nevada in 2003.
- 25.3 and 27.1 were the estimated US median ages at first marriages for women and men, respectively in 2003.
- The proportion of women 20 to 24 who had never married more than doubled between 1970 and 2003 from 36% to 75%. The rate for men in this age group increased from 55% to 86%.
- 24.6 pounds of candy per capita was consumed in 2003. Consumption has actually declined.
- In 2003 the combined wholesale value of domestically produced cut roses was \$52 million dollars. Roses were second in receipts to lilies.
- There were 28,914 jewelry stores in the US in 2002. In February, 2004 they sold \$2.4 billion in merchandise.

Data - courtesy of the US Census Bureau



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley  
George Donley  
Walter Harrod  
Karen Vitale Selah  
William Vivencio

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger  
Stephanie Darcy  
Mary Ryder  
Pete Kaiser  
Florence Rothage

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Hank Selah  
Robert Presbrey  
Jack Mahoney  
Valerie Esposito

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell  
Ted Libath  
Bert Keller  
Claire McMahon  
Lillian Weaver  
Evelyn McQuade  
Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



*February is well known for its celebration  
of Groundhog Day, St. Valentine's Day and Black History.*

Let us focus on great romances and, in particular, that of Jackie and Rachel Robinson. Those of us who have been around for some time know Jackie Robinson as the player who broke the color barrier in baseball. At the time that Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers was looking for a talented and educated black baseball player, Robinson was 26 years of age, a graduate of UCLA who had played four sports, and an individual with strong religious beliefs and an equally strong work ethic. They met for the first time on August 28, 1945 and Rickey questioned Robinson about whether or not he would be able to handle the racism he was going to have to endure.

Rachel Isum met Robinson when she was a first-year nursing student at UCLA. They married on February 10, 1946 and left two weeks later for spring training for the minor league Montreal Royals in Daytona Beach, Florida. Jackie endured the insults and threats on his way to leading the league in batting, runs scored and fielding. The following spring, notwithstanding a threatened boycott by the Dodgers' players, he was promoted to the major leagues. The Robinsons suffered death threats, verbal harrassment from managers, players and fans. Robinson nevertheless was named Rookie of the Year in 1947 with a batting average of .297 with 125 runs scored and 29 stolen bases. That year the Dodgers also won a National League title. By 1949 baseball was integrated with the signing of more black players to major league contracts.

Jackie has always credited Rachel with providing him with the support necessary to work through the difficulties he had throughout his baseball career. He described her as "strong, loving, gentle and brave, never afraid to either criticize or comfort."

When Jackie retired from baseball in 1956, the Robinsons were visible members of the civil rights movement. They supported Martin Luther King, Jr. and spoke out against Stokely Carmichael, a black separatist.

Robinson died of a heart attack on October 23, 1972. In 1973 Rachel founded the Jackie Robinson Foundation which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship money to help minority and underprivileged students attend college. Mo Vaughn, a former New York Met, once said "Jackie Robinson couldn't have been Jackie Robinson if it wasn't for Rachel Robinson. It's another case of the fact that behind every good man is a good woman. Study your history. He wanted to quit. She wouldn't let him."



Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580

**PANORAMA**  
**Valley Stream Historical Society**

**PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION**  
 143 HENDRICKSON AVENUE, VALLEY STREAM, NY (516) 872-4159 FAX: (516) 599-7069  
[HTTP://WWW.NASSAULIBRARY.ORG/VALLEYST/VSHST.HTML](http://www.nassaulibrary.org/valleyst/vshst.html)

VOLUME XXXII, No. 6 MARCH, 2005

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, March 17, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

**PROGRAM**



**Elder Law**

John Bigler, Esq., will speak to us about Elder Law. As our population lives longer, many issues have arisen concerning the protection of the rights of senior citizens. We have all heard or read about the exploitation, abuse and neglect of our older citizens. Elder Law addresses the issues of probate and estate planning, health, long-term care planning, guardianship/conservatorship, durable power of attorney, housing, medicare and medicaid, organ donations, reverse mortgages, pension benefits and social security.

**PASSINGS**

Feodor (Ted) Zwarico, husband of Ruthanne Zwarico.



**HISTORY FOR SALE**

Although modern technology has proved to be a boon to all segments of society, problems have arisen with respect to on-line auctions. An article in the *Portland Press Herald* (Maine) on February 28, 2005 written by Mark Peters reports: "The seller described the item as a 'wonderful, original document dated 1819' complete with signatures of Pownal's selectmen. Bids on e-bay started at \$14.95 for the historic tax record from the southern Maine town. The seller, however, did not get a bite from Maine State Archivist Jim Henderson. Instead, the on-line auctioneer got an e-mail warning that the sale was illegal.

Henderson and others in the Maine Secretary of State's Office are trying to prevent the sale of original public documents, a problem they say has increased with the popularity and ease of Internet auction sites. They are contacting traditional auctioneers, working with a national group to push changes in on-line auctions and trying to educate the general public.

'Public documents belong to the public,' Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap said.

The sale of local, county and state documents is a criminal act under state law, punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$2,000 fine...

The most well-known recovery came four years ago, when the secretary of state won back from a private owner a copy of the Declaration of Independence. The document was sent to North Yarmouth in 1776 to spread the word of the declaration.

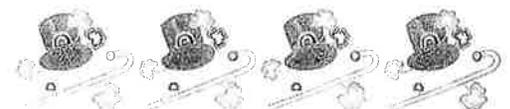
Henderson and some of his colleagues in other states have contacted eBay to see if the on-line auction giant would help police the issue. They have had little success so far.

Henderson says lawyers for eBay have told him that because many states treat public documents differently, it would not put a prohibition on the items.

The Council of State Historical Records Coordinators, a national group of state archivists, has been working on this issue in recent years as several states reported problems with the sale of government documents on-line. Its members are putting together a Web site that collects the laws for all states to push eBay into doing something. That site, however, has not come together yet."

©2005 Blethen Maine Newspapers Inc.

eBay is willing to work with states on this issue. However, the difficulty arises because laws are not uniform state to state, and they do not want to ban items that are legal to buy and sell in some states.



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

Karen Vitale Selah

William Vivenzio

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Hank Selah

Robert Presbrey

Jack Mahoney

Valerie Esposito

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



## CELEBRATING WOMEN



WHEREAS, American women of every culture, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways;

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home;

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation;

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation;

WHEREAS, American women of every culture, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement;

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history;

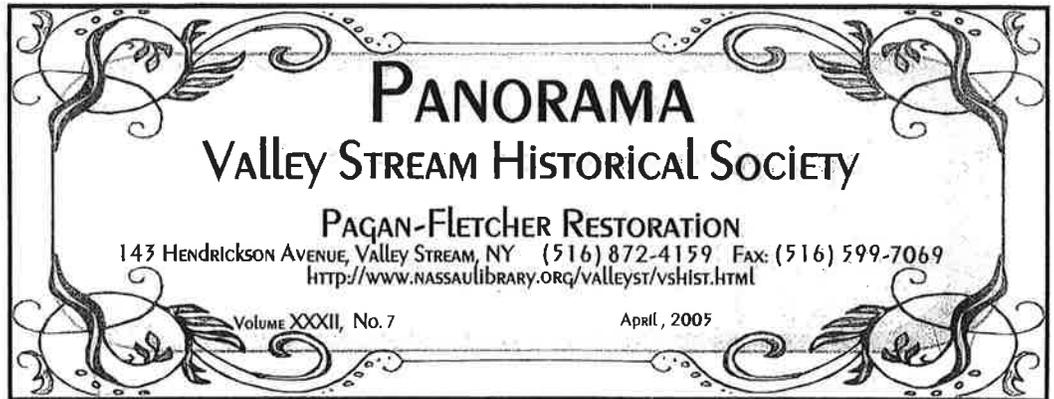
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that March is designated as "Women's History Month." The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.



Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

### PROGRAM



### LATEST TRENDS IN NEW YORK TRIAL COURTS

In 1986, Robert G. Bogle was appointed Acting Village Justice. In 1988 he was appointed Village Justice and has been re-elected for five (5) unprecedented terms. He is Acting City Court Justice for Long Beach and serves as the Chief Court Attorney for the Department of Law of Nassau County's Court. The Department advises County Court Judges, Administrators and Clerks on legal issues. Bogle is an adjunct professor of criminal justice for graduate and undergraduate students at C.W. Post. He serves as President of the NYS Magistrates Association, the statewide organization of town and village justices; a lecturer of the judicial education program of the Office of Court Administration and a member of the New York Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics. Bogle previously served the Hon. Ira H. Wexner, Supervising Judge of the Nassau County District and County Courts as Law Secretary.



### VICTORIAN TEA

The Society's Victorian Tea will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2005 at the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration. Reservations are limited so if you have an interest in attending please contact Marge Chvatal at (516) 825-0324.



### PROGRAM AT CRADLE

On Thursday, May 19, 2005 at 7:30 p.m., Bob Smyth will recount a period of successful test flight activity at Grumman Aerospace between 1955 and 1981. Grumman introduced the first supersonic Navy fighter, launched a line of purpose-built transports, conceived a carrier based attack airplane which would see service for 37 years, among other projects. For more information, please call the Cradle of Aviation at (516) 572-4111.



### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

In 1961 an individual by the name of Pat Amendolia purchased a 1953 Corvette in Freeport and has been able to trace its ownership back to a Valley Stream photographer. The name and address of the business was Vinell Studios, 371 North Central. The car is considered unique. It was the 25th Corvette made and might have been the first sold in NY. Only 300 were built in 1953. If you have any information, please contact Carol McKenna at the above address. Thank you.



### BATTER UP

The Boys of Summer have begun the 2005 baseball season. While it is nice to be able to enjoy the game at home thereby avoiding the crowds, the lines at the concession stands and the traffic jam after the game, let's be realistic. There is nothing quite like a day at the ballpark - the sound of the crack of the bat, the homerun over the fence, the successfully executed double play for the home team and yes, even the franks taste better.

### Happy Spring



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

Karen Vitale Selah

William Vivenzio

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Hank Selah

Robert Presbrey

Jack Mahoney

Valerie Esposito

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynemik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy

# TIME



DST was first proposed by Benjamin Franklin while he served as the American delegate to Paris in an essay entitled "An Economical Project."

During World War I in an effort to conserve fuel necessary for electrical power, Germany and Austria began saving daylight. On April 20, 1916 they advanced time one hour until the following October. Other European countries followed suit. On March 19, 1918 'An act to preserve daylight and provide standard time for the United States' was enacted in the United States. Daylight Saving Time ("DST") was observed for seven months in 1918 and 1919. It proved to be unpopular and was repealed in 1919 over President Wilson's veto.

During World War II, the USA went on "War Time" whereby DST was in force for the period February 2, 1942 through September 30, 1945. It was not federally mandated; many areas of the country chose not to observe and this led to confusion.

The Uniform Time Act of 1966 was signed into law by President Johnson on April 12, 1966 and set the period of time for DST as the last Sunday of April through the last Sunday of October. Any state wishing to be exempt from the law could do so by passing its own legislation. In 1986 the law was amended to provide that DST would begin on the first Sunday in April.

A man born just after midnight, DST, avoided the draft by using it as a loophole. He alleged that at the time of his birth standard time was the official time used for recording births in his home state and so he was born on the previous day. Since that day had a higher draft lottery number, he was not drafted. In September 1999, the Palestinian West Bank was on DST while Israel had switched back to standard time. West Bank Palestinians had prepared time bombs that were smuggled to Arab Israelis. Because of the time difference the devices exploded while they were being planted killing three bombers rather than their intended targets. Every year, a bill is proposed in Congress asking for an extension of DST to Halloween so that trick or treaters have more light. Statistically, the rate of children pedestrian deaths on Halloween is 4 times higher than on any other night. A teenager defending himself against charges of vehicular homicide claimed that the street was dangerously wet and unsafe because of a lawn sprinkler system. The landscaper testified that the sprinklers were set to come on more than 15 minutes after the accident, but the outcome of the matter hinged on whether the timer had been adjusted for the recent change to DST. If it had not, this meant the sprinklers were on for a period of 45 minutes prior to the accident giving credence to the teenager's argument.

There is rationale for DST. We consume less electricity. We spend more time outdoors and fewer hours at home using appliances and lighting, when necessary. There is a decrease in automobile accidents, as well. The only areas of the world that do not employ DST are the tropical and equatorial countries simply because their days and nights are equal throughout the year.

There is also opposition to DST. People with sleep disorders find the change disconcerting. Farmers claim that chickens do not adapt well to the change. Ultra-Orthodox Sephardic Jews in Israel have campaigned against it because they recite Slikhot penitential prayers in the early morning hours during their month of Elul.



Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

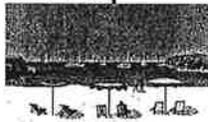
Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 18, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

### PROGRAM



### SANDBAR TO CITY

**Roberta Fiore**, historian for the City of Long Beach and founder of the Long Beach Historical Society will speak to us about Long Beach during the period 1906 through 1922.

Long Beach, one of the older established communities on Long Island, was founded in or around 1880. With the arrival of the railroad in 1882, it became a resort community. Its two-mile boardwalk was built in 1904 with the help of elephants.

Long Beach was a barrier island presumed to have been discovered by Henry Hudson in 1609. William H. Reynolds, the builder of Coney Island's Dreamland, hoped to turn Long Beach into the American Riviera. In 1913 the village was incorporated. Verne and Irene Castle opened a nightclub in Long Beach. Other entertainers included Clara Bowe, Eddie Cantor, Flo Ziegfield and Rudy Vallee. In 1922 it achieved the status of a city. Gradually after the Depression hit, the celebrities moved out, the major hotels closed and Long Beach began its transformation into a residential/beach community.

Refreshments will be provided by **Barbara Ehlinger, Florence Gunther** and **Helen Dowdeswell**.

### OPEN HOUSE



**Bertha Ballou**, the Society's President, has announced that an Open House will be held at the Restoration on **Sunday, May 22, 2005**. All officers and trustees are encouraged to attend the Open House.

### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following individuals have been nominated for the positions alongside their names:

Bertha Ballou	President
Gabe Parrish	Vice President
Florence Gunther	Treasurer
Agnes Libath	Corresponding Secretary
Ruth Anholzer	Recording Secretary

#### Three Year Trustees:

Milton Sable  
 Marge Chvatal  
 Ruthanne Zwarico  
 Carol McKenna

Elections will be held on May 18, 2005. Installation will take place at the Society's June meeting.



*Newsday* reported on April 17, 2005 that there is a new executive director for the Theodore Roosevelt Association based in Muttontown. His name is **Edward Renehan, Jr.** and we can take pride in the fact that he is a former

Valley Streamer. Renehan developed a fascination with Roosevelt after his father took him to Sagamore Hill. He is the author of a number of books on Theodore Roosevelt among others.

Did you know **Mamie Eng** serves on the Documentary Heritage Program Committee for the Long Island Library Resources Council?



### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The annual Memorial Day parade takes place on Monday, May 30, 2005. The Society will meet on Rockaway Parkway near the parking lot for the Wheeler Avenue School at 9:00 a.m.



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Günther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

Karen Vitale Selah

William Vivenzio

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Hank Selah

Robert Presbrey

Jack Mahoney

Valerie Esposito

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

EDITORIAL DESIGNER

Stephanie Darcy



## OUR FASCINATION WITH THE DRIVE-IN MOVIE

Can you imagine New York State being considered a "late bloomer?" The first drive-in movie was opened in August of 1938 in our hometown of Valley Stream. While drive-in movies peaked in the rest of the country in the 1950's, 1963 was the year for New York State. There were 150 in operation during that year. Today we remain one of the top five states with approximately 30 operating drive-ins, none, alas, on Long Island.



Let's go back to yesteryear. Envision the family growing up in the 1950's where the only source of electronic entertainment was the television (black and white and with a small screen as well), radio and record player. Imagine the harried parents with the boisterous youngsters on a weekend night. What a perfect scenario for a movie. Mom and Dad pack the children into the car with the younger children in their pajamas in the event they fall asleep watching the movie and off they go to the drive-in. Now you might ask why put the younger children in pajamas? The answer is rather simple. When the family comes home the children can be immediately put to bed without the hassle of having to undress them. Have you ever tried to undress a cranky child? It's not pretty.

Approximately three years ago on a camping trip in Unadilla, New York, the writer had occasion to go to a drive-in movie where you were able to see two first-run movies for the price of one. Guess who fell asleep (no, I was not in my pajamas), but I have a good excuse. It was a rough weekend but that's a story for another day.



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 15, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

### SAVE THE DATE



On September 18, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., a ceremony will be held in Arthur J. Hendrickson Park to dedicate the tree planted by the Society in memory of **Bert Keller**. All officers, trustees and members are asked to attend.

### PROGRAM

#### NOSTALGIA/STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



**Walter Harrod**, a long-time member of the Society will test our memories of times gone by. There will be a \$2.00 fee for the strawberry treat.

### ELECTION



The officers and trustees who were elected in May will be sworn in at the June 15, 2005 meeting.

### MISSING

There are two demitasse spoons missing from the Victorian Tea. The bowls of the spoons have ridges. Please return to **Carol McKenna**. They are part of a relative's estate. Thank you.

### PASSINGS

**Joe Bergen**, beloved life-long resident of the Village, member of the Society, Central High School Class of 1939, former Postmaster of Valley Stream appointed by President Johnson, candidate for Mayor, force in Democratic politics, served on the Recycling Committee appointed by former Mayor DeGrace.



The **Pagan-Fletcher Restoration** will be undergoing much needed repairs during the warm weather which will include having the exterior of the house painted as well as the flag pole and the gas station. Certain repairs will also be done to the interior of the house. Our thanks to **Mayor Cahill** and the **Board of Trustees**, and, in particular, to **Ed Fare**, who serves as liaison to the Society. Ed is a Life Member of the Society.

### BITS AND PIECES OF THE PAST



In 1819, **Long Island** consisted of three counties, Kings, Queens and Suffolk and their respective towns which were further subdivided into villages and hamlets. Kings County contained six towns, to wit, Brooklyn, Bushwick, Flatbush, Flatlands, Gravesend, New Utrecht. Queens County consisted of six towns, namely, Newtown, Flushing, Jamaica, North Hempstead, Hempstead and Oyster Bay. Suffolk County had the largest number of towns: Huntington, Islip, Smithtown, Brookhaven, Riverhead, Southampton, Southold, East Hampton and Shelter Island.

HAVE A SAFE AND WONDERFUL SUMMER. SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Milton Sable

Marge Chvatal

Ruthanne Zwarico

Carol McKenna

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

Karen Vitale Selah

William Vivenzio

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

EDITORIAL DESIGNER

Stephanie Darcy

**Valley Stream - A Source of Water  
for the City of Brooklyn**



**PART I**



In 1834, the City of Brooklyn began looking for a source of water for its 23,000 residents. Two individuals, by the names of Gabriel Furman and James Walters, suggested that wells be sunk at the base of Fort Greene, wherein the water would be pumped from them to a reservoir on top of the hill and be distributed throughout Brooklyn at a cost of \$100,000.00 and an annual expense of \$10,000.00. No one acted upon this report.

Action was not taken until 1847, by which time the population of Brooklyn had tripled. At this time, it was thought that Brooklyn could share with New York City a portion of the Croton water supply by laying pipes across the East River but New York City was reluctant to share its source and that idea was abandoned. In September, 1848, Brooklyn suffered what was termed "the great fire." The absence of water was in large measure responsible for the destruction caused. The fire and the corresponding increase in insurance premiums gave impetus to the common council (Brooklyn's governing body) to find a source of water. The council referred the matter to its special committee which expended the sum of \$1,000.00 for the purchase of a steam engine to be used in experiments for supplying water. The special committee recommended the Douglass well system at a cost of \$830,000.00. In 1849, legislation was passed appointing three Water Commissioners, but no action was taken by the appropriate authorities under this law. Approximately, two years later a special committee recommended changes to the city charter which would give the common council further powers. The change was adopted.

**Membership Form**

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582

**Expires June 2006**

Individual \$10, Student \$2, Contributing \$15, Family \$15 (2 or more in family)  
Organizations, Clubs, Business, and Etc. \$25; Tax Exempt Life Gifts \$100.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

**Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924**

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York



On September 18, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., a ceremony will be held in Arthur J. Hendrickson Park to dedicate the tree planted by the Society in memory of **Bert Keller**. All officers, trustees and members are asked to attend.

## PROGRAM

### THE NINETY-NINES



One hundred seventeen women pilots were invited to a meeting at Curtiss Field, Valley Stream on November 2, 1929; 26 responded. Many names such as Gad Flies, Climbing Vines and Bird Women, among others, were suggested. Amelia Earhart, its first President, suggested naming the group for the number of charter members.

Initially 76 responded, then 86 and in time 99 women pilots joined qualifying as charter members and The Ninety-Nines Club was born.

Now known as The Ninety-Nines, Inc., it is headquartered at Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma where it maintains a museum. The Ninety-Nines has a membership of 6,000 women pilots throughout the world. It owns and manages the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison, Kansas. Every year it awards Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships to qualified members for advanced flight training.

In 2004 the last two surviving charter members passed away - Margaret Thomas Warren and Josephine Wood Wallingford.



Following is an excerpt from an article written by Alonzo Gibbs for the July, 1974 issue of *Long Island Forum*.

"One of my sister Ruth's friends in the 1920's was Helen Dodswell. She had a brother whose first name I can't recall. They lived, I believe, in the Malverne end of Valley Stream School District No. 13.

I was surprised one day to learn that young Dodswell, no more than fifteen at the time, was already a poultry judge at the Mineola Fair."

The last name was misspelled but we all recognize the sister and brother referred to above.



Needless to say, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama.

**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**  
James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**  
Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**  
Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Milton Sable  
Marge Chvatal  
Ruthanne Zwarico  
Carol McKenna

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Anita Buckley  
George Donley  
Walter Harrod  
William Vivencio

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Barbara Ehlfinger  
Stephanie Darcy  
Mary Ryder  
Pete Kaiser  
Florence Rothage

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**  
Helen Dowdeswell  
Ted Libath  
Bert Keller  
Claire McMahon  
Lillian Weaver  
Evelyn McQuade  
Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**  
Editor  
Carol McKenna  
Editorial Designer  
Stephanie Darcy

**Valley Stream - A SOURCE OF WATER  
FOR THE City of Brooklyn**



**PART II**



In April, 1852 a private company called the Williamsburgh Water Company obtained a charter from the legislature to construct works to supply water to Williamsburgh alone. Its President, C. W. Houghton, believing that the only source was from streams on the south side of Long Island, purchased several of them. The Long Island Water Company under the Presidency of Nicholas Dean, Esq. was incorporated on June, 1853. It absorbed the Williamsburgh Water Company with every intention of supplying water not only to Williamsburgh but also the City of Brooklyn. Its impudence infuriated the common council. Backtracking a bit – the common council met in secret in April, 1853 and appointed a committee to negotiate for the purchase of the necessary lands. The common council visited the streams, determined not only was the quality of the water acceptable but that the supply was ample. The expense of the project was determined to be in the neighborhood of \$4,500,000. This would include the engines, pumps, land, title of the Long Island Water Company and other expenses. In order to acquire title to the Long Island Water Company's property, an appropriation of \$150,000 was recommended by the committee. The plan was submitted to the electorate in June of 1854 – 9,015 votes were cast – 6,402 voted against the plan. On January 1, 1855 the cities of Brooklyn, Williamsburgh and the town of Bushwick were incorporated into one municipal government. The water supply yet again became an issue. In February of that year, the charter of the Long Island Water Company was changed to The Brooklyn Water Company. In April of that year the Nassau Water Company was formed with the authority to purchase the assets of the Brooklyn Water Company.

**Membership Form**

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582  
**Expires June 2006**

Individual \$10, Student \$2, Contributing \$15, Family \$15 (2 or more in family)  
Organizations, Clubs, Business, and Etc. \$25; Tax Exempt Life Gifts \$100.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

**Non-Profit Organization**  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

## Covered Dish Supper



The doors of the Church will open at 6:15 p.m. Members and guests are invited to a wine and cheese social. Supper will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Dishes should be brought according to the first initial of your last name as indicated below:

**A-H:** Vegetables such as salads (tossed or otherwise) or casseroles. If you bring a tossed salad, please provide dressing.

**I-Q:** Dairy-type foods, eggs, cheese, gelatins, fruit, fish (hot and cold)

**R-Z:** "Starchy" type foods, hot or cold such as rice, beans, potatoes, pasta, etc.

**Do Not Bring Meat or Meat Content Dishes.**

The Society will provide these items as well as bread, butter, tea, coffee and desserts.

A donation of \$5.00 will be collected at the door.

Guests are welcome but we ask that they bring dishes in accordance with the requirements listed above. Members are asked to provide a dish if their guests are unable to do so.

## HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

The Halloween Costume Contest will be held at the Restoration on Sunday, October 30, 2005. The Ragamuffin Parade will start at 3:00 p.m. Costumes will be judged and prizes awarded for both children's and adults' costumes.



## NEW YORK STATE SYMBOLS



- State Motto – Ever Upward
- State Fruit – Apple – adopted in 1776
- State Beverage – Milk – adopted in 1981
- State Tree – Sugar Maple – adopted 1956
- State Flower – Rose – adopted 1955
- State Insect – Ladybug – adopted 1989
- State Bird – Bluebird – adopted 1970
- State Animal – Beaver – adopted 1975
- State Fish – Trout – adopted 1975
- State Fossil – Sea Scorpion – adopted 1984
- State Gem – Garnet – adopted 1969
- State Muffin – Apple – adopted 1987
- State Shell – Bay Scallop – adopted 1988



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**  
James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**  
Bertha Ballou

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**  
Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Ruth Amolzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Millon Sable  
Marge Chvatal  
Ruthanne Zwartco  
Carol McKenna

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Anita Buckley  
George Donley  
Walter Harrod  
William Vivencio

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**  
Barbara Ehltinger  
Stephanie Darcy  
Mary Ryder  
Pete Kaiser  
Florence Rothage

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**  
Helen Dowdeswell  
Ted Libath  
Bert Keller  
Claire McMahon  
Lillian Weaver  
Evelyn McQuade  
Alphonse Maynemik

**PANORAMA**  
Editor  
Carol McKenna  
Editorial Designer  
Stephanie Darcy

**Valley Stream - A SOURCE OF WATER  
FOR THE City of Brooklyn  
PART III**



Because well water in the city was running dry or becoming contaminated, officials decided to go east for their water supply. By 1858 the Nassau Water Company acquired a string of ponds along the South Shore from Jamaica to Hempstead and a reservoir was built in Ridgewood. The eastern terminus of the Ridgewood Water Works was Hempstead - a distance of approximately 19-3/10 miles from Brooklyn's City Hall. That distance contained a covered conduit which received contributions from Rockville, Valley Stream and Clearstream Ponds.

By the time 1870 rolled around Brooklyn's population had grown to 400,000. The city bought 557 acres in Hempstead for another reservoir. By 1890 the population had swelled to 800,000 precipitated in large measure by the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge. The conduits east were extended from Rockville Centre to Massapequa. The Milburn Pumping Station was erected on the Freeport-Baldwin border. By 1891 the station was pumping water into Brooklyn. In 1907 85% of the 145 million gallons of water Brooklyn used was supplied by Long Island.

In 1872 a temporary pumping station was installed at Watt's Pond located on the east branch of Hook Creek about 1/2 mile below Valley Stream Pond and south of the conduit due to a possible deficiency in the water supply. This site had not been initially considered because its elevation was too low for a gravity supply.

In or about 1905 an aqueduct was built in the Catskills and by 1917 it was supplying most of the water used by Greater New York City. In the 1920's New York City was paying \$80,000 in taxes to Nassau County. City officials recommended building a highway above the pipeline and Sunrise Highway was the end result. 2,200 acres of land in Nassau County were dedicated by the city to the Long Island State Park Commission. This acreage was developed into the Southern State, Meadowbrook, Wantagh and Bethpage Parkways and Valley Stream and Hempstead Lake State Parks.

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580



### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 16, 2005, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York

### THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING JAMES DARCY, ESQ.



Darcy earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in English from Fordham University, a Master's Degree in English from Brockport University (formerly known as SUNY – Brockport), and his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from St. John's University School of Law. He is admitted to practice before all Courts in the State of New York as well as United States District Court in the Eastern, Southern and Northern Districts of New York.

The law of trusts and estates is for the most part considered that body of law that governs the management of personal affairs and the disposition of property of an individual in the event of that individual's incapacity or death. Elder law deals not only with estate planning but other issues that face the elderly such as home care, long-term care insurance, social security, or disability benefits.

### GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST



The Society's Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Bake Sale will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2005 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 4:00 p.m.

**Participants in the gingerbread house contest are asked to bring their houses to the restoration between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

Donations for the Bake Sale will be very much appreciated and can be brought to the

Restoration between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. the day of the sale.

Hans Semder will demonstrate how to decorate a gingerbread house on Sunday, December 4, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Semder advises that Costco in Lawrence has a kit with baked parts and candy for \$7.00 in the event anyone wants to purchase one.



### CANDLELIGHT TOUR

The Society will be hosting a candlelight tour of the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration on Monday, December 26, 2005 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Participants are asked to bring one item of non-perishable food for the community's food pantry.



Carol McKenna has been appointed to serve on the Local Historian's Advisory Council by President of the University and Commissioner of Education, Richard P. Mills, for a term of two years ending in October 2007.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Restoration will be decorated for the holiday over Thanksgiving weekend. Please call either Valerie Esposito at 825-7157 or Karen Selah at 872-0006 for the date and time.

### THANKSGIVING

As you sit down to dinner with your family on this Thanksgiving, give thought to those less fortunate than you.



**Valley Stream  
Historical Society  
Officers**

**CHAIRMAN**

James E. Buckley

**PRESIDENT**

Bertha Bailou

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gabe Parrish

**TREASURER**

Florence Gunther

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Agnes Libath

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ruth Anholzer

**THREE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Milton Sable

Marge Chvatal

Joseph Gunther

Ruthanne Zwarico

Carol McKenna

**TWO YEAR TRUSTEES**

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

William Vivenzio

**ONE YEAR TRUSTEES**

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

**HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

**PANORAMA**

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



**HISTORY of COMMON LAW**



Common law developed from judicial decisions based in tradition, custom, and precedent. Common law, as applied in civil cases, was devised as a means of compensating someone for wrongful acts known as torts, both intentional and those caused by negligence. Although today common law is generally applied to civil disputes, originally it encompassed criminal law before criminal codes were adopted in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Prior to 1066, English residents were governed by local customs that varied from community to community and were arbitrarily enforced. Courts consisted of informal public assemblies who, if unable to reach a decision, might require the accused to test guilt or innocence by carrying a red-hot iron or snatching a stone from a cauldron of boiling water (referred to as a trial by ordeal). If the wound healed within a set period of time, the accused was set free; if not, more than likely he or she was executed.

In 1154, Henry II became England's first Plantagenet king. He created a unified system of law ending local control and reinstating a jury system although decisions were not necessarily based on the evidence presented during trial. His efforts brought him into conflict with Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, who saw his Church's canonical power curbed. Becket was murdered by a group of men allied with the King. He was later canonized as a saint by the Church.

As early as the 15<sup>th</sup> Century those who felt that they had been cheated by the common law system would petition the King. For instance, they might argue that the award of damages was not sufficient redress for a trespasser occupying their land and ask that the trespasser be evicted. From this the system of equity was developed. Conflict between law and equity continued, and it was not until the 17<sup>th</sup> Century that it was determined equity should prevail.

Common law forms the basis of the legal systems of England, Wales, the Republic of Ireland, 49 states of the United States (Louisiana adheres to the Napoleonic Code), Australia, New Zealand, etc. Thus, it can be seen that most English-speaking countries or those colonized by England use common law.



Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

**Non-Profit Organization**  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580

**PANORAMA**  
**Valley Stream Historical Society**

**PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION**  
 143 HENDRICKSON AVENUE, VALLEY STREAM, NY (516) 872-4159 FAX: (516) 599-7069  
<http://www.nassaulibrary.org/valleyst/vshist.html>

VOLUME XXXIII, No. 4 Dec '05 JAN UARY 2006

### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 18, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.  
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Valley Stream, New York



The Society congratulates Stephanie and Jim Darcy on the birth of their grandson, Nico James, December 31, 2005.



### FITNESS

Bud Cosco, fitness expert and physical therapist will speak on the benefits of regular physical activity. Benefits include strengthening your heart and lungs, lowering blood pressure, strengthening bones, keeping joints, tendons and ligaments flexible to name a few.

### PASSINGS



Anita Buckley, beloved wife of Jim Buckley, loving mother, loving grandmother, dear friend, trustee of the Society, long-time resident of the Village. Based on the writer's personal experience, one of Anita's sterling qualities as an individual was her ability to truly listen to people.

### AND THE WINNERS ARE...

#### GRAND PRIZE



- First Place** – Girl Scout Troop 2191
- Second Place** – Carbanero School's Girl Scout Junior Troop 2011
- Third Place** – Girl Scout Junior Troop 2034

### Really Old News

#### Sale of the Burtis Farm

Hempstead, L.I., November 30 – The old Burtis farm, near Valley Stream, will be placed on the market next Wednesday. The farm consists of nearly fifty acres, the majority of which faces on the macadam highway at Valley Stream. The sale of this old place and its ultimate division into building lots is a forcible reminder of the growth of this section. Within a few years all of the old homesteads which are near any of the large villages on the south side will have become too valuable for agricultural purposes and will give way to the march of progress, to be laid out in streets and be put on the...

*Brooklyn Eagle, Date: 1901 Nov 30*



### SPECIAL ADULT CATEGORY

- First Place** – Kathy Elam

### CHILDREN

- First Place** – Amanda Scalza and Daniel Ferro
- Second Place** – Derrick and Lynette Soler
- Third Place** – Miller Family



Congratulations to our winners and our thanks to all who participated in our Gingerbread House Contest.

And an extra special thanks to Hans Semder who once again conducted a seminar on how to decorate a gingerbread house.



## Valley Stream Historical Society Officers

### CHAIRMAN

James E. Buckley

### PRESIDENT

Bertha Ballou

### VICE PRESIDENT

Gabe Parrish

### TREASURER

Florence Gunther

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Agnes Libath

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Ruth Anholzer

### THREE YEAR TRUSTEES

Milton Sable

Marge Chvatal

Joseph Gunther

Ruthanne Zwarico

Carol McKenna

### TWO YEAR TRUSTEES

Anita Buckley

George Donley

Walter Harrod

William Vivencio

### ONE YEAR TRUSTEES

Barbara Ehlinger

Stephanie Darcy

Mary Ryder

Pete Kaiser

Florence Rothage

### HONORARY TRUSTEES

Helen Dowdeswell

Ted Libath

Bert Keller

Claire McMahon

Lillian Weaver

Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

### PANORAMA

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



## NEW YORK CASTLES

Long Island's own Oheha Castle was completed in 1921 by Otto Hermann Kahn. It was situated on 443 acres on the highest point of LI's Gold Coast, contained 126 rooms, and was described as a French Chateau. The estate boasted a golf course, working farm, private airstrip and numerous outbuildings. Kahn was born on February 21, 1867 in Mannheim, Bavaria, Germany. In 1893 he emigrated to the United States and earned a reputation as a collector, philanthropist and patron of the arts. Kahn died in 1934 and the property was sold to the City of New York for use as a retreat for sanitation workers. In 1941 Orson Welles used the exterior and gardens as the home of Charles Foster Kane in Citizen Kane. Eastern Military Academy purchased the mansion and 23 acres around it in 1948. By the time the school went bankrupt thirty years later the gardens ceased to exist, rooms had been subdivided and paneled walls painted over. While vacant vandals set fire to the building on numerous occasions, Kahn had insisted on fireproofing the building and it survived. In 1984 a developer purchased the estate. Today it serves as a 26 room luxury hotel.

Belvedere (translates from the Italian into English as "beautiful view") Castle in Central Park has a vista of the Great Lawn, Turtle Pond and the Delacorte Theatre. Frederick Law Olmstead and Calvert Vaux, designers of Central Park erected the shell of a miniature Gothic Castle. Today it houses meteorological equipment which keeps Manhattanites up to date on local weather conditions.

Castle on the Hudson was originally called Carrollcliff and later Axe Castle. It was built in two stages between 1897 and 1910 by General Carroll, the son of a Civil War general and in the style of Norman fortifications found in Wales, Scotland and Ireland. It has 45 rooms and the main tower rises 75 feet making it the highest point in Westchester County. One of the dining rooms features paneling brought from the General's home in St. Germain, a suburb of Paris. General Carroll died in 1916. His widow and children occupied the residence until 1940. Prior to its current use as a luxury hotel, it was rented for a brief period to a local school and also was the headquarters of an investment counseling business.

Boldt Castle on Heart Island in Alexandria Bay is a six story, 120 room Rhineland style edifice. George C. Boldt, described in certain areas as the lessee and in other places as the owner/manager of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, commissioned the castle to celebrate his love for his wife, Louise. More than 300 carpenters, stonemasons and artists worked on the project for four years. Construction was stopped after Mrs. Boldt died suddenly, was never finished, and Mr. Boldt never returned to the island. The castle stood vacant for 73 years until it was acquired in 1977 by the Thousand Island Bridge Authority and restoration began.

Valley Stream Historical Society  
P.O. Box 22  
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Valley Stream, NY  
Permit No. 924

Mr. William Stris  
41 Parkwold Drive East  
Valley Stream, NY 11580