

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 15, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7th Street
 Valley Stream, New York



FAMOUS PEOPLE I HAVE MET

Jack Mahoney, USNR and former Trustee of the Society, will regale us with stories about the days when he was chief pilot of New York Airways. Jack has flown not only helicopters but fixed wing aircraft. He was also a safety engineer for 27 years for the FAA. Jack has lived in Valley Stream for 78 years.

Refreshments will be provided by Marge Chvatal, Helen Dowdeswell and Ruthanne Zwarico.



GEORGE IS BACK

Come visit the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration on February 19, 2006 between the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. The Society is the proud owner of a piece of Washington (the President, that is) memorabilia. Members of the Society will be dressed in period costumes.



February 14 is St. Valentine's Day. Whisper those three little but not insignificant words to the people in your life.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION



On January 26, 2006, a team from News 12 was at the Restoration to tape several of our members in costume for our *George is Back* program over Presidents' Weekend. The Society is very grateful to Valerie Esposito who has been extremely successful in publicizing our events. Lumar's loaned Abe Lincoln (a/k/a Gabe Parrish) a tuxedo for the occasion. Thank you, Lumar's.



Jim Buckley and Walter Harrod, our good will ambassadors to the community, will be giving a slide presentation on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at Goldie's Restaurant for the Lion's Club.



Dr. Paul L. Daniel, Central High School Class of 1948, has gifted the Society with his publication *Of Men and Angels*.



Evelyn McQuade recently interviewed Ed Fare whose recollections will be added to the collection of Oral History tapes at the Waldinger Library. Helen Dowdeswell advised the Society that the Bethpage Library expressed an interest in the oral history tape of Alonzo Gibbs.

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Historical Society
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Bertha Ballou

VICE PRESIDENT

Gabe Parrish

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Mary Ryder

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Florence Rothage

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Evelyn McQuade

Alphonse Maynernik

PANORAMA

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy

GROUNDHOG DAY - A BIT OF HISTORY

By: Carol McKenna

The Delaware Indians settled the area known as Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania in 1723. It is 90 miles northeast of Pittsburgh and is between the Allegheny and Susquehanna Rivers. The Delaware Indians believed their forebears began life as animals. Groundhogs were considered to be honorable ancestors.

Midway between the Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox is Candlemas Day. This tradition had its beginnings in the pagan celebration of Imbolc. If the weather was fair, the second half of Winter would be cold and inclement. It was the custom among the early Christians in Europe to have the clergy bless candles and distribute them. The candles were then placed in the windows of each home. If the sun came out on February 2, it meant six more weeks of Winter.

Pennsylvania began its official celebration of Groundhog's Day in 1886 with a proclamation in one of its local newspapers *The Punxsutawney Spirit*: "Today is groundhog day and up to the time of going to press the beast has not seen its shadow." The groundhog was given the name "Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinary." On his debut performance, no shadow.

Punxsutawney Phil's handler advises that Phil weighs 15 pounds and loves dog food and ice cream. He lives in a climate-controlled home at the Punxsutawney Library. On Gobbler's Knot (where the ceremony takes place each year), Phil is placed in a heated burrow underneath a simulated tree stump before being pulled out at 7:25 am to make his prediction. For your information, Phil has only been correct about 39% of the time. In 1887 and 1888, he saw his shadow and in 1890 there was no shadow. No records were kept for the period 1891 through 1897 and 1899. In 1942, he saw a partial shadow; in 1943 the groundhog did not appear.

*If the sun shines on Groundhog Day;
Half the fuel and half the hay*



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

Thursday, March 23, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7th Street
 Valley Stream, New York

PLEASE NOTE DAY AND DATE OF MEETING

JOHN ENGLISH ON IRISH WOLFHOUNDS

Historically speaking, the name Irish Wolfhound is recent. The hound a/k/a war dog, wolf dog is mentioned in Irish laws which predate Christianity and in 5th Century Irish literature. Only royalty and the nobility were allowed to own hounds. They were used to guard property and herds and to hunt deer, boar and wolves.

Stanley Cohen in his book *The Intelligence of Dogs* tells the tale of Patrick MacAlpern who was abducted by Irish marauders at the age of 16. He stayed for six years as a shepherd, his only companion a dog. In response to a dream, he traveled some 200 miles to the coast where he found the ship that was to take him home. The ship was from Gaul and had put into Irish waters to get a cargo of hunting dogs. Rather than purchase his cargo the captain decided to steal the dogs. He had over 100 Irish wolfhounds in the holds of the ship. The dogs were uncontrollable having been taken from their owners and surroundings. It had been noticed that Patrick had a way with dogs and so in exchange for his services he was given free passage to the continent. The story goes that the ship did not have enough provisions and when it reached shore the crew took the dogs. In learning that Patrick was a Christian the ship's master taunted him into praying for food. He did and a herd of wild pigs appeared. His reputation rose and the crew provided him with some food and a bit of coin for the balance of his journey. We know Patrick MacAlpern as St. Patrick.

The Irish Wolfhound Club was formed in 1885 and the Kennel Club recognized the Irish Wolfhound as a sporting breed in 1925.

Refreshments will be provided by Marge Chvatal, Helen Dowdeswell and Ruthanne Zwarico.



PASSINGS

Barbara Ehlinger, Trustee, who kept the membership records for many years and could be depended upon to volunteer her time when needed. She was involved with the Valley Stream Central High School Alumni Association, as well.



BITS N PIECES

On March 5, 2006, the Society hosted a group from the Floral Park Historical Society at the Restoration.



Grand Opportunity Free Excursion and Collation

WYCKOFF & LITTLE will sell at auction on TUESDAY, June 14th, 1870 on the premises 1,000 lots at Valley Stream L. I., one of the most delightful locations on the Island, on the South Side Railroad, 35 minutes from the Bushwick ave. Depot, Brooklyn. All the trains of the South Side R.R. stop at Valley Stream, it being the JUNCTION OF FOUR RAILROADS. Resident of Valley Stream can be in New York at 7 A.M. and leave the city after 6 P.M. Valley Stream is proverbially healthful. It is laid out into streets and avenues; beautiful villas have been built upon the property. 70 per cent, may remain on bond and mortgage.

A special train will leave the Depot, South Eighth street, Brooklyn, on the morning of the sale at 11 A.M. The collation will be ready on the arrival of the train.

Maps and free tickets for the excursion and free tickets to view the property, may be obtained at the office of WYCKOFF & LITTLE, 151 Montague st, Brooklyn, or of J.N. WYCKOFF, Sr., 70 Cedar st, New York
Brooklyn Eagle, June 13, 1870

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Alphonse Maynemik

PANORAMA

Editor
Carol McKenna
Editorial Designer
Stephanie Darcy

YESTERYEAR'S CRIME NEWS

(Brooklyn Eagle July 24, 1896)

Slapped His Daughter's Face
Consequently Robert Studley Is Now
Arrested For Assault

CLAIMS GIRL WAS WAYWARD. It appears that the Young Woman Who Is Under 21, Left Her Father's Home and Took Up Her Quarters at a Long Island Hotel - Studley Objected. Hence the Alleged Assault - A Change of Venue

Lawyer George A. Mott got from Justice Osborne in the supreme court, special term, this morning an order removing the trial of Robert C. Studley, charged with assault, from the court of special sessions before Justice E. A. Wheeler in Valley Stream, L. I., to the court before County Judge Garretson.

Studley is a farmer, living near Valley Stream. His wife died about two years ago, leaving nine children for him to care for. The eldest of the children is a girl, Mary, 19 years old, and the father relied on her to help carry on the household. Lawyer Mott says that Studley was disappointed in Mary, as she spent much of the time away from home and finally began to remain out late at night with other girls and men not known to her father to be of reputable character. She is a very pretty brunette.

Recently, as Studley informs Lawyer Mott, the girl has made her home at a hotel kept by Floyd Abrams in Valley Stream. On July 15 Studley went to the hotel to get his daughter and, after waiting for two hours, was informed by Abrams that if he got his daughter he would have to do so through an officer. While Studley was waiting, he says, a woman known as Gussie Flint, who is married and lives at the hotel, told Studley that if he started to go through the hotel on his search for Mary she would take a club and pound him. He did see his daughter and got her to the wood but she refused to accompany him home. He tried to force her to go and finally, as she resisted, he slapped her with his hand. He succeeded in getting her home and had been in the house but a short time when a farmer named Soper, who had frequented the Abrams' hotel, obtained his arrest on a charge of assaulting his daughter.

He was taken before Justice Wheeler and while he was at court Abram Furman, an officer in charge of the business of Wheeler, went to Studley's house and accompanied the girl to the hotel. Studley was held on the charge of assault and he deposes in affidavits, submitted to-day, that his daughter Mary told his son Henry that Justice Wheeler visited her and told her that he would take her part; that if she had no friends he would be her friend; that she needed no lawyer, as he would look out for her interests. Abrams, as Studley alleges, has declared that he will spend \$1,000 to keep the girl away from her father.

Studley's trial for assault will not be called until the county court meets in October, but his counsel says that he intends to have the daughter arrested on a charge of vagrancy, and, if possible, have her sent to a suitable institution.

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NEXT MEETING

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 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
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LONG ISLAND HARMONICA CLUB



We will once again be entertained by the Long Island Harmonica Club. Come join us and listen.

Refreshments will be provided by Agnes Libath, Florence Gunther and Ruthanne Zwirco.

We were all disappointed that our speaker for the month of March, Jack English, was unable to keep his commitment and speak to us on Irish Wolfhounds.

We are thankful that David Morrison was able to fill the slot and speak to us about Roosevelt's (TR, that is) love of the railroad.

HERE'S TO LIFE

Hofstra USA Productions presents the Long Island Premiere of *Here's to Life!* starring Kitty Carlisle Hart on Sunday, April 23, 2006 at 2 pm at the John Cranford Adams Playhouse on the South Campus. For tickets and information, call the Playhouse at (516) 463-6644, Monday through Friday, 11am to 3:45 pm. This is a celebration in story and song of Ms. Hart's career in show business and the golden age of the American musical theatre.



MILESTONES FOR QUEENS, NASSAU AND Suffolk COUNTIES

- o **Gardiners Island:** First English settlement in New York State purchased by Lion Gardiner in 1639.
- o **South Jamaica and Southold:** The first cemeteries, begun in 1640, were Prospect Cemetery off Jamaica Avenue and the Old Burying Ground off Route 25A.

- o **Fire Island:** The Dutch ship Prince Maurice, the first recorded shipwreck, sank in 1657.
- o **East Hampton:** Clinton Academy, the first chartered academic institution in the State, was founded in 1784.
- o **Sag Harbor:** The first newspaper, the *Long Island Herald*, was published in 1791.
- o **Montauk:** The first lighthouse in New York State, built in 1796, was the Montauk Lighthouse.
- o **Southold:** The first incorporated library was founded in 1797.
- o **Sag Harbor:** Sag Harbor Fire Department, the oldest volunteer company, was established in 1803.
- o **Huntington:** Silas Wood published the first history of Long Island, *A Sketch of the First Settlement of the Several Towns on Long-Island*, in 1824.
- o **Eatons Neck:** The first life-saving station opened in 1849.
- o **Greenport:** First National Bank of Greenport, the first commercial bank, opened in 1864.
- o **Southampton:** The Parrish Art Museum, the first art museum, opened in 1898.
- o **Robert Moses State Park:** The first state park was Fire Island State Park, authorized in 1908 and later renamed for Robert Moses.
- o **Mineola:** The first airport was Mineola Flying Field, established in 1909.
- o **Farmingdale:** The state School of Agriculture was the first public college in 1912.
- o **Garden City:** Adelphi moved here from Brooklyn in 1929 and became the first private four-year college.
- o **Valley Stream:** The first drive-in movie theater opened in 1938.
- o **Garden City:** The first major shopping mall was Roosevelt Field in 1956.
- o **Commack:** The Long Island Ducks hockey team, the first sports franchise began playing in 1959.

Newsday.com – Long Island Our Story



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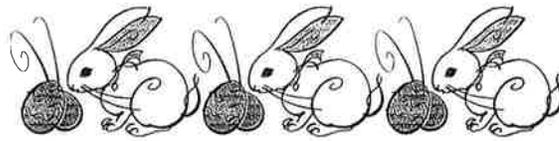
PANORAMA

Editor

Carol McKenna

Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



It is not surprising that the egg, which symbolizes fertility and new life, is associated with Easter.

Easter eggs were painted with bright colors to represent sunlight. Often after the eggs were decorated and colored, they were exchanged by lovers in the same manner as valentines. In medieval time eggs were given at Easter to servants.

In Greece eggs the color of crimson are exchanged. The color represents the blood of Christ. Green eggs are used in parts of Germany and Austria on Maundy Thursday. The Polish and Ukrainian people decorate in a simplistic fashion. Austrian artists design patterns by using ferns and tiny plants around the eggs which are then boiled. The plants are removed to reveal a striking white pattern. Those in Eastern and Central Europe as well as the Balkans decorate their eggs in colors of silver and gold.

There is a method called pysanki in which melted beeswax is applied to a fresh white egg. It is dipped in successive baths of dye. After each dip wax is painted over the area where the preceding color should remain. In time a complex pattern of lines and colors emerges.

In certain other countries, the contents of the egg are removed by piercing the end with a needle and blowing the contents into a bowl. The egg is then dyed and hung from shrubs and trees during Easter week. Armenians are known to decorate hollow eggs with pictures of Christ, Mary and other religious artifacts.

Romans celebrated the season by running races on an oval track and giving eggs as prizes.

We are very familiar with the Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Egg Roll. On Easter morning children search their homes to find the eggs that had been hidden the night before by the Easter Bunny. Speaking for myself, just give me the basket - forget the eggs.

There are rules governing the Easter Egg Roll. One must either roll an egg the greatest distance or roll the egg without breaking it down a grassy hillside or slope.



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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7th Street
 Valley Stream, New York



WE'VE GOT RHYTHM

Rhythm involves patterns of duration that are phenomenally present in the music. All musicians, instrumentalists and vocalists work with rhythm, but it is often considered the primary domain of drummers and percussionists.

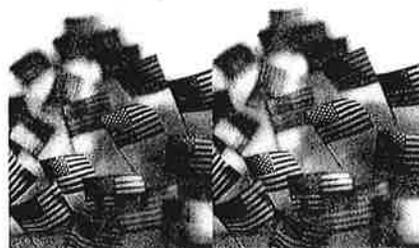
Please join us and listen to Billy Martin and Charlie Pappas, the *Gold Coast Rhythm Boys*. Come stomp your feet, clap your hands, sing a little (but only if you are in voice).

Refreshments will be provided by members of the Society.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The annual Memorial Day Parade takes place on Monday, May 29, 2006. The Society will meet on Rockaway Parkway near the parking lot for the Wheeler Avenue School at 9:00 a.m.



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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

Marge Chvatal	President
Gabe Parrish	Vice President
Florence Gunther	Treasurer
Agnes Libath	Corresponding Secretary
Ruthanne Zwarico	Recording Secretary
Bertha Ballou	Three Year Trustee
Bob Presbrey	Three Year Trustee
Jack Mahoney	Three Year Trustee
Evelyn McQuade	Three Year Trustee
Valerie Esposito	Three Year Trustee
Robert Gobright	Two Year Trustee
Karen Selah	One Year Trustee
Hank Selah	One Year Trustee

All of the above individuals, if elected, will be sworn in at the June, 2006 general membership meeting.

IN THE MERRY, MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Did you know:



In some countries May 1 is Labor Day.



Mexico celebrates Cinco de Mayo (translated into May 5) in honor of the battle it fought in 1862 against France.



May 19 is National Bike to Work Day. Not a bad idea considering the price of gasoline per gallon.



National Waiter/Waitress Day is May 21.



In 1845 Canada declared Queen Victoria's birthday a national holiday. In 2006, it will be celebrated on May 22. If the 21st falls on a Sunday, her birthday is celebrated on the following Monday.

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A Holiday Road Race

Twenty-Five Mile Event at Valley Stream on July 4
First Meeting of the Committee of the Associated Cycling
Clubs – a Code of Rules Needed – Murphy to Go south.
Hamilton Gets the Mile Road.

The race committee of the Associated Cycling clubs held a meeting at the Kings County wheelmen's club house last night and selected a date for the first twenty-five mile road race of the organization. D. B. VanVleck of the Kings County wheelmen presided and Louis G. Hooper of the Pequod club was elected secretary. Others present were: C. T. Cowenhaven, Liberty wheelmen; C. E. Terry, Bushwick wheelmen, and N. Gerhard, Williamsburgh wheelmen. There was considerable discussion as to when the proposed road race should be held. Some Saturday afternoon after the running of the Irvington-Millburn race was talked of, but it was finally decided that it would be better to hold it on a holiday, and as decoration day is taken up by the big New Jersey event, Fourth of July was selected as the date for the Long Island affair. In choosing this date the committee had in mind the permanent establishment of the race on the Fourth.

The question of course was next considered. As all the members of the committee are familiar with the different routes on Long Island they had no difficulty in selecting the Valley Stream course as the best one. In this matter they were guided considerably by the advice of Captain George A. Needham of the Kings County wheelmen, who had been invited to confer with the committee. The Valley Stream course was surveyed last year under the auspices of the Kings County wheelmen and their twenty-five mile road race was run over it. It is five miles long and runs from Springfield through Valley Stream to Lynbrook. The tape is exactly midway between the two turns and is in front of Smith's Irma park hotel. The east turn is in front of Frank Whyte's store between Rockville Center and Lynbrook and the other turn is in Springfield. One railroad track is crossed on the course, but this is only a single track and trains are run on it very rarely...

It was thought that at least two hundred entries for the race would be received. A road race has never been run on Long Island that has been free from trade influence and wheelmen generally will welcome the advent of other Associated Cycling clubs into the field as the promoter of a twenty-five mile event.

Brooklyn Eagle, April 9, 1896

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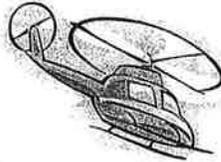


NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 20, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
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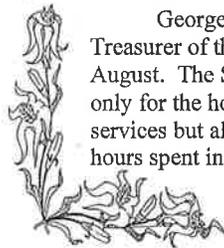
FAMOUS PEOPLE I HAVE MET



Jack Mahoney, USNR and Trustee of the Society, will regale us with stories about the days when he was chief pilot of New York Airways. Jack has flown not only helicopters but fixed wing aircraft. He was a safety engineer for 27 years for the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA"). Jack has lived in Valley Stream for well over 70 years.

Refreshments will be provided by the Society.

PASSINGS



George Donley, Trustee and former Treasurer of the Society passed away in August. The Society will miss George not only for the hours he volunteered his services but also for the many pleasant hours spent in his company.

DONATIONS

The Society acknowledges with gratitude a donation received from Edith Hendrickson in memory of Anita Buckley.

It also acknowledges with gratitude the donation received from the Valley Stream Lion's Club.



NO PERMITS TO HORSE BUTCHERS

HEMPSTEAD BOARD OF HEALTH STOPS THE BUSINESS IN THAT TOWN

Hempstead, L.I., January 22 – At the meeting of the Board of Health yesterday all the men who have been engaged in the horse slaughtering industry at Elmont, Franklin Square and Valley Stream were present and asked for permits from the board to resume business.

J.J. Memmesheimer and Ferdinand Pelhl were represented by counsel and presented petitions signed by a number of the residents of Franklin Square and Valley Stream. Other well known residents of the town, including Dr. Louis N. Lanehart, were present and opposed the granting of any permits.

Justice Jay stated that he did not purpose having the Town of Hempstead a burial ground for maimed horses of Brooklyn and Manhattan and other places. He offered a resolution that no permits be granted any of the men engaged in the horse killing industry. The resolution was unanimously carried.

As it is necessary for four members of the board and the health officer to sign all permits for killing animals in the town, it is now very unlikely that any horse slaughtering establishments will again be operated in the Town of Hempstead.

Brooklyn Eagle; Date: January 21, 1901

VALLEY STREAM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Alphonse Maynornik

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Editorial Designer

Stephanie Darcy



Our children are first introduced to Local History and Local Government in Grade 4. The New York State Education Department's core curriculum is set forth below:

- Build on students' understanding of families, schools, and communities.
- Highlight local political institutions and historical developments with connections to New York State and United States History.
- Provide an in-depth study of government including the structure and functions of the different branches of local government.
- Explore the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
- Expand such civics concepts as *power, equality, justice, and citizenship*.
- Establish a chronological framework to help students organize information about their communities within the context of New York State history.
- Explore such themes and events as: Native American Indians of New York State, the European encounter, the colonial and Revolutionary War periods, the new national, the period of industrial growth and expansion in New York State, and local and State government.
- Provide a foundation for the social history that students will study in grades 7 and 8.



Membership Form

Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582
Expires June 2007

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 _____

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 Valley Stream, New York



Carol McKenna was re-elected President of the Association of Public Historians of New York State on Tuesday, October 3, 2006 at its bi-annual meeting in Canandaigua, 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: Dairy-type foods, eggs, cheese, gelatins, fruit, fish (hot and cold)

I-Q: "Starchy" type foods, hot or cold such as rice, beans, potatoes, pasta, etc.

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

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 29, 2006. The Ragamuffin Parade will start at 3:00 p.m. Costumes will be judged and prizes awarded for both children's and adult's costumes.



Schmitt Farms, 26 Pinelawn Road, Melville has a haunted corn maze 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from October 6 through October 22 and daily from October 26 through Halloween.



In Bayville Scream Park you can visit three haunted houses, Bloodworth Manor, Uncle Needle's Funhouse of Fear and the Temple of Terror *if you dare.*

**VALLEY STREAM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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Carol McKenna
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Stephanie Darcy



AUTUMN IN THE NORTH

Shorter days and falling temperatures are the first signs for trees to prepare for the coming winter.

Trees during the period lose billions of tons of leaves. This shedding of leaves is preceded by a spectacular show of color. Leaves that were green turn to yellow, orange and red which is a direct result of transformation in leaf pigments.

The green pigment is chlorophyll. This pigment absorbs red and blue light from sunlight. Chlorophyll is not stable; it decomposes in bright sunlight. To maintain the proper amount of chlorophyll in leaves, plants continuously synthesize it which synthesisization requires sunlight and warm temperatures. During the summer months chlorophyll is continually broken down and regenerated in the leaves of trees.

The intense autumn colors are influenced by the weather. Low temperatures destroy chlorophyll. Brightest autumn colors are produced when dry, sunny days are followed by cool, dry nights.

In preparation for winter and to prevent or minimize damage from cold, plant cells switch from production of chlorophyll to production of sugars and amino acids, which creates an antifreeze for the plant.

While we appreciate the colors of Summer, and although Fall is the precursor to the Winter Season, the colors of Autumn are eye-catching and many Americans engage in traveling to those areas of our country, particularly New England to see the change in season.



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, January 17, 2007, at 8:00 pm
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Brooklyn Avenue and 7th Street
 Valley Stream, New York

LONG ISLAND FIRSTS IN AVIATION



Gabe Parrish, Vice President of the Society is our featured speaker this month. Parrish, a resident of Valley Stream since 1954 volunteers at the Cradle of Aviation. From 1942 through 1947, Parrish worked for Columbia Aircraft at Curtiss Field in Valley Stream. From 1948 until his retirement in 1986, Parrish worked for Sperry.



WINNERS OF THE 2006 GINGERBREAD CONTEST

First Grand Prize – Girl Scout Troop 2011
Second Grand Prize – Girl Scout Troop 2281
Third Grand Prize – Ramas Family
First Honorable Mention–Smith Family
Second Honorable Mention–Presbrey Family
Third Honorable Mention–Helen Attanasio
Special First Attempt–Janez Francis, Breanna and Danielle Debe
 The Society thanks all persons who participated in our annual contest.

Well Done All!



FAREWELL BUT NOT GOOD BYE

Hans Semder, who has demonstrated how to ice a gingerbread house for many years at our annual contest, announced his retirement in 2006. The Society is grateful for his support over the years as well as his too many to count contributions.



Long Island Archives, the newsletter of the Documentary Heritage Program Long Island Library Resources Council has advised that "Stony University Libraries Special Collections Department has acquired a secret wartime letter from General George Washington to his spy master Major Benjamin Talmadge that is an important historical record in the documentation of the early history of Long Island. This letter written from 'Headquarters West Point' on September 24, 1779 by General Washington, was purchased at auction through private and public funding."

TRAVELING?

Beginning January 23, 2007 ALL persons, including US citizens, traveling by **air** between the US, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda will be required to present a valid passport, Air NEXUS card or US Coast Guard Merchant Mariner document or an Alien Registration Card, Form I-551, if applicable.

As early as January 1, 2008, ALL persons, including US citizens traveling between the aforesaid countries by **land** or **sea** (including ferries) may be required to present a valid passport or such other documents as determined by the Department of Homeland Security.



Happy And Healthy New Year!

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FIRST TO VALLEY STREAM

William Smih, proprietor of the Irma Park hotel, at Valley Stream, announced a couple of weeks ago that he would be pleased to have his friends call on New Year's day. The first wheelman to reach Valley Stream was to own the house and the others were to have a repast which would fully repay their journey. A party comprised of Messrs. Ruble and Stott and Mrs. Stott left Brooklyn at 10:30 o'clock, but owing to the darkness and the condition of the Rockaway road they did not arrive until a few minutes after 12. Mr. Smith had given up all hopes of having any callers from the city and seemed very much surprised when the visitors arrived. Mrs. Smith had a repast in readiness, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the Brooklynites. They were joined by Second Lieutenant Waters of the Pequoda, who rode from Jamaica. The party departed at 4 o'clock, but took the road through Jamaica and then over Broadway, which was in fair condition. Mrs. Stott and Mr. Ruble were on a tandem. Mr. Smith says no other wheelmen from the city have had the hardihood to ride to Valley Stream since the snowstorm.



Brooklyn Eagle, January 2, 1897

VALLEY STREAM BURGLARS

Valley Stream, L.L., January 21 -- Yesterday morning it was discovered that the hardware and feed store of L. E. Cuinet had been broken into by burglars the night before. They got in by boring out the fastening of the board shutters on a side window. About \$50 worth of cutlery, consisting of razors, shears, knives and forks and pocket knives was stolen. Mr. Cuinet is the postmaster, but he lost nothing belonging to that department, as his stamps were all in a safe. No attempt was made to blow it open. The patent cash drawer was smashed but no money was in it. No clew has been obtained. It is the general opinion that the job was done by some of the gang who followed the pool sellers out the last day.



Brooklyn Eagle, January 21, 1898

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