

PANORAMA

Valley Stream Historical Society

PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION

143 HENDRICKSON AVENUE, VALLEY STREAM, NY (516) 872-4159 FAX: (516) 599-7069
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VOLUME XXXX No. 4

JAN - Feb 2014

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday
February 19, 2014
7:30 pm

Please note new location and time.
Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York

The Society presents a lecture on the Legacy of Gene Kelly. Guest lecturer is film historian, Richard Knox, who will share film clips from some of Kelly's famous films.

Kelly was born on August 23, 1912 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to a working class family. He was one of five children. While other boys played baseball, Kelly took dance lessons. He paid for his college education by giving lessons.

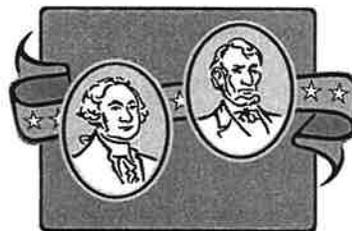
Over the course of his life, Kelly married and divorced three women and had three children, Kerry, Bridget and Timothy.

Kelly died on February 2, 1996 in Beverly Hills, California after suffering a series of strokes over the years.



Gene Kelly "Singin' in the Rain"

GEORGE & ABE ARE BACK



Visit the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration and see a genuine piece of memorabilia that belonged to Washington. Society members will be dressed in colonial costumes.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

The winners are...



FIRST PRIZE—Noah Merhai
—Motorcycle Astronaut



SECOND PRIZE—Samson Mohamed
—The Hulk



THIRD PRIZE—Sauliman Virapen
—SpiderMan

**VALLEY STREAM
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PANORAMA
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Carol McKenna
Graphic Designer
Stephanie Darcy

MORE NEWS FROM HOME

Our speaker for January, 2014, United States Air Force Captain Toby M. Rogers was unable to make the meeting. Marisa Berman who wrote a book on Nunley's Carousel filled in for Captain Rogers on short notice. We hope to hear Captain Rogers' lecture on March 19, 2014. We are grateful to Ms. Berman for filling in on short notice.

WINNERS OF THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST



FIRST PLACE - Girl Scout Troop 2348, Holy Name of Mary, *Winter in Valley Stream*. What an appropriate choice given the weather we are having.



SECOND PLACE - Brownie Troop 2267, Valley Stream - *Gingerbread Winter Wonderland*.



THIRD PLACE - Girl Scout Troop 2281, Blessed Sacrament - *Candy Chalet*.

SPECIAL MENTION - Daniela, Angelo, and Anthony Forthofer for their *Little House in Valley Stream* and Kevin and Alicia Tritschler for *Gingerbread University*.

Dorothy Hollman demonstrated how to ice a gingerbread house while Mayor Fare iced houses with the kids. Karen Selah, Recording Secretary for the Society, decorated and organized the event.

Special thanks to Jim Neil, Jerry Bevinetto, Christopher Sottile, Tom Green and Keith Conrad of the Village's Maintenance staff (our Very Special Elves), who helped to decorate the Restoration for Christmas as well as put the roping on the fence. You rock!



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

Mamie Eng
Henry Waldinger Memorial Library
60 Verona Place
Valley Stream, NY 11580



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VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VOLUME XXXX No. 5 MARCH 2014

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 7:30 pm

**Please note new location and time.
 Valley Stream Community Center
 Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
 West Merrick and South Franklin
 Valley Stream, New Yor**

built and in 1956 an auditorium-gymnasium and kindergarten were added.



SHAW AVENUE

In order to accommodate families and the rise in school-age children moving to Valley Stream after World War II, a new school was built in 1950 on Shaw Avenue.



FOREST ROAD

By 1953 District 30 saw its school population almost doubled. Forest Road was built to serve the needs of the community. The building had 13 classrooms and within three (3) years another seven rooms were added.

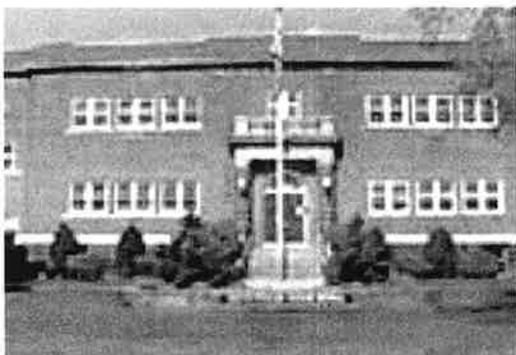
On February 26, 2014 District 30 celebrated its 90 years with a PowerPoint presentation of events throughout the decades with students walking the runway showing the fashions of each decade. The 4th and 5th Grades Chorus sang its own rendition of "We Are a Family of Friends." A friend of the Society's, William P. Stris was honored for all of the research and hard work he put into the history of the District. Speeches were given, proclamations presented, refreshments served and guests viewed photos and historical documents relating to the District over the past 90 years.



Sgt. John Cobun will speak on the issue of Senior Safety.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 30 CELEBRATES ITS 90TH YEAR

In the early 1920's there were two districts in Valley Stream, District 13 and 24. In 1922 as children in the west end of Valley Stream had to travel to either Wheeler Avenue or Brooklyn Avenue for school, a decision had to be made – either to build two new schools or create a new school district. It was decided to create a new district and District 30 was born.



CLEAR STREAM AVENUE

The first school to be built was on Clear Stream Avenue. In 1928 two four room wings were



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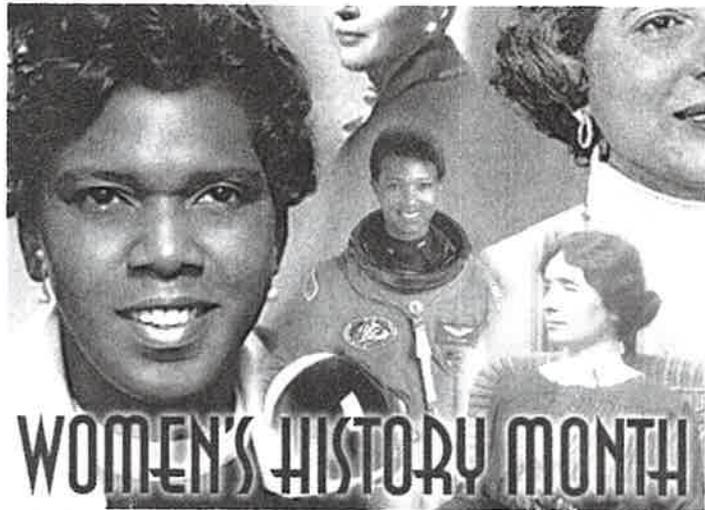
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MARCH—NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women held a *Women's History Week* in 1978. Not much was known about women's history. The K-12 school curriculum did not cover the topic. Sonoma County's celebration was a complete success. Presentations were held in classrooms, hundreds entered an essay contest and a parade in downtown Santa Rosa, California ended the week-long celebration.

In 1979 leaders of national organizations for women and girls participated in The Women's History Institute of Sarah Lawrence College chaired by Gerda Lerner. Upon learning of the success of the Sonoma County celebration, those in attendance not only decided to hold celebrations of their own but to support the idea of a National Women's History Week.

In February, 1980 President Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. Then Representative Barbara Mikulski and Senator Orrin Hatch co-sponsored a Congressional Resolution for National Women's History Week in 1981.

Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, Alaska plus other states distributed curriculum materials to their public schools and before too long thousands of schools and communities were celebrating National Women's History Week.

1916 - Margaret Sanger opens the first birth control clinic
 1903 - Marie Curie is awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of radioactivity
 1852-1860 - Susan B. Anthony crusades for women's rights in the United States and internationally
 1920 - With the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, U.S. women get to vote
 1849 - Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first American woman to receive a medical degree
 1908 - Women compete for the first time in Olympic track events
 1906 - National Organization for Women (NOW) is founded
 1942 - Maria Queen of Scots is the first known female pilot
 1979 - Elizabeth Taylor becomes the first woman to receive a medical degree
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Women's History Month

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

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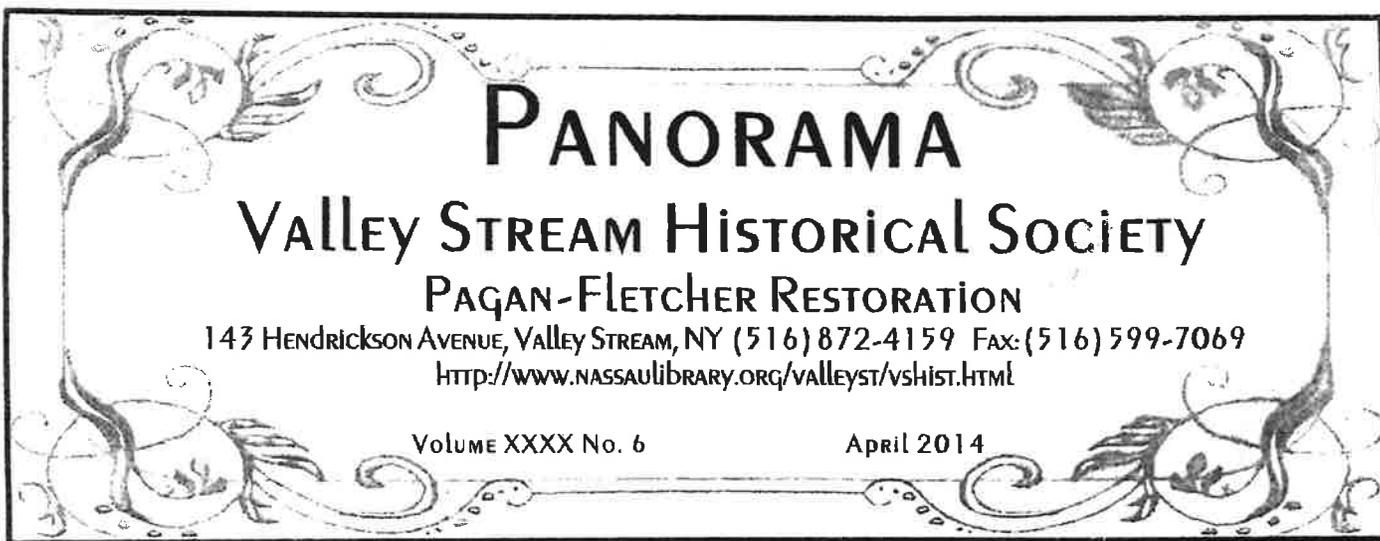
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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Please note new location and time.
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Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York

BEST Film Clips of DEAN MARTIN AND JERRY LEWIS by film HISTORIAN JACK SCHNUR



Martin was born in Steubenville, Ohio in 1917 to an immigrant family. Lewis was born in 1926 in Newark, New Jersey to a show business family. They collaborated for ten years 1946-1956. Between 1949 and 1956 they made 16 movies together. Martin died in 1995.



The Society extends its condolences to one of its members, Joan Arico, who lost her granddaughter, Melissa Marie Rupa, who was killed by a drunk driver last June.



One of our long-time members, Walter Harrod, has been in the hospital. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.



Our Membership year is fast coming to a close. Please don't forget to pay your dues. As you know, dues help to fund the activities of the Society. We would also love to see our members at the monthly presentations as well as visiting the Restoration on Sundays to see the Society's exhibits.



A HORSE RESENTS A WRONG

Reuben Shaw, of Valley Stream, angered by some act of his horse, went into his stall to beat him. When Shaw had inflicted several blows, the horse caught his arm and held it until he had broken the bone in two places.

Brooklyn Eagle, December 18, 1881

STILL ANOTHER HORSE CASE

Martin D. Remsen, of Valley Stream, L.I., farmer, was arrested this morning by Officer Frank Clark, at the corner of Bushwick avenue and Boerum street, in the act of driving a horse that was lame and suffering from a sore shoulder...

Brooklyn Eagle, October 18, 1884



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**JACK MAHONEY
Pilot EXTRAORDINAIRE**

On March 16, 2014 the Society honored one of its own, Jack Mahoney. He is a retired Captain USNR as well as a graduate of Central High School 1942. Mahoney serves as a Director of Central High School's Alumni Scholarship Fund, Trustee of the Valley Stream Historical Society and is a former volunteer of the Village's Fire Department, Rescue #1.

Mahoney served in the Naval Reserves at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn as a member of Fighter Squadron #842 and Commanding Officer of two helicopter squadrons that won the Noei Davis Trophy and the Atlantic Award. He was also Assistant Chief Pilot for NY Airways with the responsibility of landing aircraft on the roof of the former Pan Am building in Manhattan. Mahoney was in charge of helicopter operations at the New York World's Fair, Flushing Meadow Park, New York and served as a consultant for British Petroleum Helicopter Operations in Australia, Indonesia, Philippines, China and South America, as well as Safety Engineer for the Federal Aviation Administration. He has more than 18,000 flying hours in helicopters and 6,000 flying hours in fixed wing.

Mahoney met with Charles Lindberg when Lindberg was President of PanAm. He flew Corsairs for the Navy in World War II, a plane that Lindberg helped design. Mahoney was a primary flight instructor and in that role flew Stearman planes in Ottumwa, Iowa and Memphis, Tennessee.

He had two close calls – once when a seagull hit his helicopter which caused him to make an emergency landing at Kennedy Airport and the other as a co-pilot when the engine quit and he came down in a swamp near Newark Airport.

Mahoney has had the opportunity to pilot aircraft for a number of individuals such as Henry Morgan, Prince Phillip, David and Nelson Rockefeller, Ford Frick, Robert F. Kennedy, Frank Sinatra, Elizabeth Taylor to name a few.

He has resided in Valley Stream for 89 years and as a teenager worked for the Gibson Corporation. Jack has and continues to have close ties to the Valley Stream community.



Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22
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VOLUME XXXX No. 7

MAY 2014

NEXT MEETING

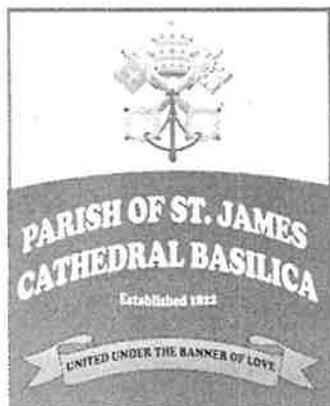
Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at 7:30 pm

**Please note new location and time.
Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York**

HISTORIC CHURCHES OF BROOKLYN by ARCHIVIST JOE COEN



Photo above is of the Cathedral Basilica of St. James established in 1822.



Our speaker is the archivist for the Diocese of Brooklyn. His responsibilities include collecting and storing materials related to the history of Catholic churches in Brooklyn, which has been called the *Borough of Churches* for the number of parishes it has.



BOCCE BALL FUNDRAISER

A Bocce Ball Tournament will be held at the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration on Sunday, May 18, 2014 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Each team will consist of three individuals engaged in a round robin format. The entry fee is \$10.00 per person. To register in advance, please call 516-825-4251. You don't need a full team to enter. Mayor Ed Fare serves as Captain of the Society's bocce ball team.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The Society will march in the Memorial Day Parade to be held on Monday, May 26, 2014.

Those who will march and those who will travel by car are to meet at the Wheeler Avenue School on Rockaway Parkway at 9 am.

NOMINATIONS

The following individuals were nominated to serve the Society during the forthcoming year:

Dave McKean – Vice President
Amy Bentley – Three Year Trustee
James Borzamato – Three Year Trustee
Robert Presbrey – Three Year Trustee
John Urgo – Three Year Trustee

The election will take place at our May, 2014 meeting and all elected individuals will take the oath of office at our June, 2014 meeting.



PASSING

The Society extends its condolences to the Family of Georgina Lago. Lago served the Society as its cleaning lady for twenty (20) years.

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THE HISTORY OF THE POW/MIA FLAG

In 1970, Mrs. Michael Hoff, the wife of a serviceman missing in action and a member of the National League of Families, approached Norman Rivkees, Vice President of Annin & Company with respect to a flag to represent those were missing in action or prisoners of war. Mrs. Hoff read in the Jacksonville, FL *Times Union* that Annin & Company had recently manufactured a banner for the Peoples Republic of China, then the newest member of the United Nations.

Rivkees and Newt Hasley, an advertising agency employee of the company designed the flag and with the League's approval they were manufactured for distribution. Wanting the flag's message to be widely disseminated, use of the design is not legally restricted as it is not trademarked nor is it copyrighted. The National League of Families also does not profit from sales of the flag.

On March 9, 1989 the flag flew over the White House in recognition of National POW/MIA Recognition Day and subsequently was and continues to be displayed in the Capitol Rotunda, the only flag with the distinction of flying over the White House and on display in the Capitol Rotunda.

On August 10, 1990 the 101th Congress passed legislation which recognized the flag and designated it "as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing in action and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation."

The 105th Congress' passage of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act requires that the flag fly six days per year – Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day. It is flown at the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Departments of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs, the headquarters of the Selective Service System, major military installations as determined by the Secretary of Defense, all Federal cemeteries and all offices of the U. S. Postal Service.

The flag's intent now covers all wars in which we have been involved since Vietnam.



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P.O. Box 22
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VOLUME XXXX No. 8

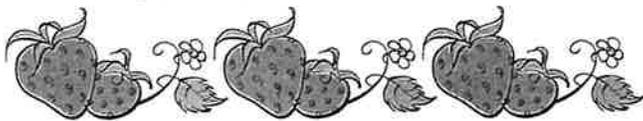
JUNE 2014

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 18, at 7:30 pm

Please note new location and time.
Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York

STRAWBERRY & ICE CREAM SOCIAL



The Society's last meeting of its year will not only install officers and its new trustees but also invites you to join it for its annual Strawberry & Ice Cream Social. The fee is \$3.00.



ARCHIVES

The Society has formed an Archives Committee consisting of the following individuals: Amy Bentley, Joseph Coen, James Borzamato and Carol McKenna. Its purpose is not only to document and protect those items on file at the Pagan Fletcher Restoration but to bring the Society technologically into the 21st Century. There will be many changes during the next year. Look to *Panorama* for reports on its progress.

Possible Historic Loss

The home of Jacob Pflug and the store next to it of Oscar J. Pflug suffered a fire recently. Oscar Pflug was the first Village Trustee. He served for the year 1925-1926.

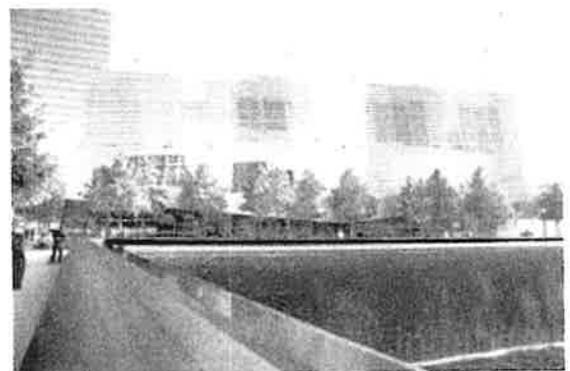
JUNE 14 FLAG DAY



The flag's original design remained that way from 1777 to 1795. The Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Act of 1777 and the resolution stated...“be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation.” In 1794 two stripes and two stars were added when Kentucky and Vermont were admitted to the Union. This is the version of the flag about which Francis Scott Key wrote his poem. In 1818 it was decided that the flag should contain only 13 stripes for each of the original thirteen colonies. For those states admitted to the union, a new star would be added on July 4.

The flag is significant to the Army as on June 14, 1775 Congress formally authorized the enlistment of soldiers into the Continental Army. Happy 238th Birthday to the United States Army!

NEVER FORGET



The National 9/11 Memorial and Museum has opened to the general public. The names of all of those who died on February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2011 are memorialized in bronze around the two reflecting pools built on the site of the towers that collapsed on that eventful day.

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**FIRST ROLLER COASTER
IN THE UNITED STATES**

On June 16, 1884, the first roller coaster opened at Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York. It traveled at 6 miles per hour and cost a nickel to ride.

Coney Island is a name believed to come from the Dutch *Konijn Elland* or Rabbit Island and is a tract of land discovered by Henry Hudson in 1609. The first hotel opened in 1829 and after the Civil War was a resort with hotels, restaurants, theaters and a race track. Between 1897 and 1904 three amusements parks opened – Dreamland, Luna Park and Steeplechase. By the 1920s Coney Island was accessible by the subway and summer crowds of about one million each day flocked to it for its beaches, amusement parks and boardwalk.

Although the amusement parks closed in the mid-1980s, the roller coaster still stands near the home park of the Cyclones, a minor league baseball team.

**5 THINGS VICTORIAN
WOMEN DIDN'T DO**



1. They didn't die young. If a Victorian woman managed to live to adulthood, she could live to 50, 60, 70 or older.
2. They didn't marry young. The average age was 26 years.
3. They didn't marry their cousins. The growth of the railroad and other improvements allowed a young woman to broaden her search of prospective husbands. Also they became aware of the number of birth defects that occurred when first cousins married. Members of the upper class, however, continued to marry first cousins, for instance, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as well as Charles Darwin and Emma Wedgwood.
4. They didn't wear tight corsets – PHEW! Corsets were thought to improve posture and keep internal organs in their place – not to make a fashion statement.
5. They didn't wear pink. White was the preferred color for infants and children until they reached the age of 6 or 7. After that age children wore pale versions of the colors worn by adults. Red was considered a strong color indicative of a male and so boys wore pink. Blue was considered to be a feminine color and so was worn by girls. It was not until the 1940s that pink became the color for girls and blue the color for boys.

Membership Form

Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022
Expires June 2015

**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 _____

Email _____

Date _____ Payment \$ _____ Check _____ Cash _____

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VOLUME XXXXI No. 1

SEPT 2014



Calling all members of the Valley Stream Historical Society. Please attend the Village Board meeting on September 15, 2014, at 7:30 pm. Mayor Fare has requested your presence.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 17, at 7:15 pm

Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York



DISCOVER FOSTERS MEADOW

Come see a PowerPoint lecture by Raymond Hoeffner about a German farming community established in the 1850's.

COMMUNITY FEST



The annual Valley Stream Community Fest will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 11 am through 5 pm on Rockaway Avenue. From 6 pm on Mayor Fare will act as a bartender at P.J. Harpers. Proceeds will benefit the Valley Stream Children's New Playground Fund.

WEIRDEST THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT YOUR HOME STATE



Referring to New York City as *Gotham* was an insult. Washington Irving who wrote such stories as *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* was the first to call New York City *Gotham*. The intended reference was to an English story of a town with the same name which meant *Goat's Town* whose citizens were simple-minded fools.



FOWLER HELD

William O. Fowler of Valley Stream, son of the miller, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of deception preferred by Miss Louisa Zaun, was held yesterday on \$500 bail by Justices Clowes and Healey. Fowler's attempt to impeach the character of the young woman was a failure.

Brooklyn Eagle – July 28, 1886

MISSING?

Bill Stris is seeking a picture of Marshal Dibble, first principal of Wheeler Avenue School. The picture was allegedly given to the Society. Does anyone have any information regarding the picture's whereabouts? If so, please contact the Society.



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Hank Selah

HONORARY TRUSTEES
Helen Dowdeswell
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Lillian Weaver
Evelyn McQuade
Alphonse Maynernik
Jim Buckley

**PANORAMA
EDITOR**
Carol McKenna
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Stephanie Darcy

A LEGAL TENDER

**HOW A MORTGAGEE LOST \$563
AND WAS MADE LIABLE FOR \$101 COSTS.**



In May, 1875, Ademah W. Rich, of Valley Stream, gave Edward Abrams a mortgage on his property to secure the loan of \$500. In 1877 Rich made a partial default in the payment of interest, but in February, 1878, when Abrams had threatened to foreclose, Rich, having a chance to sell, went to Abrams and tendered payment of the principal and interest, which he declined to accept. Rich consummated the sale to Mrs. Ellen Dorlon, who, assuming the mortgage, immediately tendered payment, but Abrams declined the offer, on the ground that he wished to consult his lawyer. Mrs. Dorlon never proffered the money again, nor did Abrams ever demand it. His counsel had prepared the foreclosure papers, but they had not been made a matter of record. The suit was carried on, judgment against Rich being obtained by default, and the property was advertised. Then Mrs. Dorlon stepped in, and obtained from Judge Gilbert an injunction arresting the sale until the question of law involved had been settled. That was in June. The case was referred to George Ingraham, of Brooklyn, who heard all the testimony and submitted it, with his opinion, to the Court. He decided that there had been a legal tender of the money and a refusal to accept it, and therefore Mrs. Dorlon was entitled to judgment discharging the mortgage from record and stopping forever all proceedings to collect it. Judge Pratt sustains the opinion. Abrams not only loses the principal and interest, \$563, but has had judgment rendered against him for \$101 costs.

Brooklyn Eagle - January 16, 1879

Membership Form

Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022
Expires June 2015

**Individual \$15, Student \$2, Contributing \$15, Family \$20 (2 or more in family)
Organizations, Clubs, Business, and Etc. \$25; Tax Exempt Life Gifts \$100.**

Name _____ Renewal _____ New _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Date _____ Payment \$ _____ Check _____ Cash _____

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

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Mamie Eng
Henry Waldinger Memorial Library
60 Verona Place
Valley Stream, NY 11580





NEXT MEETING

Wednesday
 October 15, 2014
 at 6:30 pm

Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York



COVERED Dish Supper

The doors of the Community Center will open at 6:15 p.m. Supper will begin at 6:30 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 and potatoes, 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. Guests are encouraged to call either 516-825-7157 or 516-872-4159 to determine into what category they fall. Members are asked to provide a dish if their guests are unable to do so.



HALLOWEEN AT THE RESTORATION



The Halloween Costume Contest (for kids and adults) will be held at the Restoration on **Sunday, October 26, 2014**. 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.

IS HALLOWEEN YOUR FAVORITE Holiday?



10/18/14 – Arthur J. Hendrickson Park – Gates at the pool parking lot open at 6 p.m. Rides begin at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 children 12 and under.

10/25/14 – Arthur J. Hendrickson Park - Halloween Pumpkin Painting and Costume Contest – Begins at 10 a.m. Call 516-872-6003 to learn about the breakdown of age groups.



The Society is planning a trip to the Polish-American Museum in Port Washington, NY on Wednesday, November 12, 2014. Interested individuals should meet at 10:30 am at the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration for a ride to the Museum. Donations accepted. If you are interested, please call 516-872-4159 and leave a message.



Old Town - Warsaw

**Valley Stream
Historical Society**

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Ed Fare

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
James Buckley

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Guy Ferrara

VICE PRESIDENT
David McKean

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**JIM BUCKLEY NAMED CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
OF THE VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



Left to right – Karen Vitale-Selah, Valerie Esposito, Carol McKenna, Susan D'Alessandro, Florence Gunther, Agnes Libath, Jim Buckley, Maureen Buckley, his daughter, Ed Fare, Guy Ferrara, David McKean, Dermond Thomas, John Tufarelli, Vincent Grasso and Virginia Clavin-Higgins

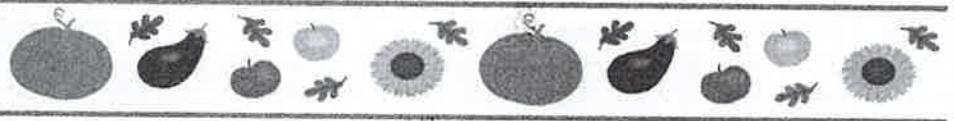
Jim Buckley was born in Valley Stream in 1923 in his family home on Fifth Street south of Sunrise Highway. His family moved to Valley Stream in 1919. They were originally from Unadilla, New York. In speaking about his siblings, Buckley credits his older brother, Ray, with being a major influence in his life as Ray was a good student and a good athlete. Jim graduated from Central High School in 1941 where he had been the captain of the basketball team. In 1943, Buckley was drafted by the Army and attained the rank of Tech Sergeant having been initially stationed in Washington State and then two and one-half years in Europe.

Buckley attended Adelphi University and was employed by the U.S. Postal Service in Valley Stream as a mail clerk for about one and one-half years. The majority of his career was spent at Hendrickson Brothers in the Village where he began as a timekeeper and later was a purchasing agent.

He and his late wife, Anita, bought a home on North Cottage where Buckley continues to reside. They have six children, Maureen, Jimmy, Rich, Billy, Tom and Mike.

Buckley recalls that the Village had approximately 5,000 residents around the time of the War. Within four to five years after the War the truck farms that raised carrots, string beans and lettuce eventually disappeared and developers began to build homes.

The Society congratulates Jim on being named Chairman Emeritus. It will always be grateful for the time and effort he put in at the Restoration doing what needed to be done to keep the Restoration up and running.



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

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PANORAMA

Valley Stream Historical Society

PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION

143 HENDRICKSON AVENUE, VALLEY STREAM, NY (516) 872-4159 FAX: (516) 599-7069

[HTTP://WWW.VSVNY.ORG](http://www.vsvny.org)

VSHISTORICAL@GMAIL.COM

VOLUME XXXXI No. 3

Nov.-Dec. 2014

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7:15pm

**Valley Stream Community Center
Arthur J. Hendrickson Park
West Merrick and South Franklin
Valley Stream, New York**

The writer remembers that on September 11, 2001 all commercial flights were grounded after the attack on the World Trade Center. Leaving work and walking to the railroad to catch a train home the City was eerily quiet but for the sound of jets flying above. The sound provided a moment of panic until we realized that the jets we heard were United States Air Force. At that moment we felt a sense of relief.

PROTECTING AMERICA'S SKIES



The Society presents a lecture by Captain Toby Rogers.

Strategic Air Command ("SAC") was formed in 1946, transferred to the United States Air Force in 1947, and was responsible for military bases and our atomic weapons.

In 1948 headquarters were established at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska (south of Omaha). Offutt was the site of the Glenn L. Martin bomber plant during World War II (the manufacturer of the two planes that dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki) and had one of the few runways that could handle fully loaded B-29s. The location was considered ideal as it was half a continent away from the east and west coasts of the United States. Its operations included basing alert bombers and tankers in the 1950's, support for ICBMs in Nebraska in the 1960's and worldwide reconnaissance from the 1960's to present.

In 1948 Curtis LeMay became Commander of SAC. He fine-tuned the Command into an organization of individuals who in a matter of moments would be prepared to fly missions to protect our country. After SAC, LeMay served as Chief of Staff of the Air Force and was involved in the Cuban Missile Crisis. He passed away on October 1, 1990.

CHRISTMAS AT THE RESTORATION



The Society's annual Gingerbread House contest will take place on Sunday, December 7, 2014 at the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration between the hours of 1pm to 4pm. Please call 516-825-7157 or 515-872-4159 for information regarding the contest and bake sale.

An icing demonstration will take place at 2pm.



Baked goods such as cookies, cupcakes and other seasonal offerings are needed for our bake sale on that date.



The Society will hold its annual Candlelight Tour on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at 6pm. It is accepting donations of canned goods for the Village's local food pantries.



Happy Holidays

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**IN MEMORIUM —
MARGARET McDERMOTT CHVATAL**



Marge McDermott was born in Valley Stream to John Michael McDermott and Marion Pierce. Her father was born in Brooklyn and her mother in Corona. The family lived at 44 East Jamaica Avenue across the street from Holy Name of Mary Church. The house still stands today. Chvatal had three siblings, Adelaide, Marion and Ann. In order of birth, she was the third and littlest of her sisters.

In or about 1929, the family moved to Elmwood Street. As a child Marge was playing on the family's driveway when a pilot from Curtiss Field (now Green Acres) flying solo for the first time and having difficulty flying his plane saw her. In a successful attempt to avoid Marge but an unsuccessful effort to land the plane, he crashed, destroyed the family garage and suffered a fractured skull.

Chvatal attended Franklin Avenue School (known as Donahue in later years) (and Brooklyn Avenue for one year) and upon graduation from Franklin went to Central High School for split sessions. She graduated from Central High School in 1939. While at Central Marge played baseball and was on its tennis, archery and rifle teams.

She met Joseph Chvatal at the age of 17 at dance class, which is rather ironic, as Bep (as most of us know him) didn't like to dance. They married in October 1945 and raised three children, Kathleen, Joseph and Joan.

From 1968 until Chvatal retired in 1987 she worked for a uniform shop in Green Acres. At the time of her retirement she was the shop's manager. Marge worked along with Emma Bitowski who was one of the residents involved with the founding of the Valley Stream Historical Society and she attended a number of early meetings. Her involvement and subsequent Presidency came along later and one of her happiest and proudest moments was when the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration officially opened to the public. Marge was President at the time and always felt it was an honor to be elected to the position.

Marge was also involved with the Central High School Alumni Association and later in life took up quilting. She always loved to sew.

Chvatal was a Yankee fan. Her daughter, Kathy, said that Phil Rizzuto and Yogi Berra were her favorite players. Karen Vitale-Selah reminded the writer that she loved the Mets too but only when they weren't playing the Yankees.

At the time of her passing (October 12, 2014), she was grandmother to seven and great-grandmother to one. Marge insisted that her grandchildren Michael, Matthew, Lee, Samantha, Tracy, Allison, and Gus be named at the end of her oral history interview.

The writer's son, Pete, was given a Raggedy Andy doll when he was born. Years later, the doll (with his permission) was given to Marge. Marge later told the writer that her other dolls were jealous of the fact that Pete's doll had shoelaces.

Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22
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Children's Section
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