



The Valley Stream Historical Society Launches New Literary Project

WriteOn – Valley Stream Stories

VALLEY STREAM, New York November 15, 2018—The Valley Stream Historical Society is pleased to announce the launch of their literary project, "*WriteOn* – Valley Stream Stories." Past and present residents are encouraged to submit their memories, essays, or autobiographies to the Society for publication.

The Society's inaugural submission is by Walter F. Todd, a former resident who lived in Valley Stream from 1944 through the mid-1960s. "I Grew Up in Valley Stream," is Walter's ambitiously written 32-page memoir; a wonderfully evocative story of his beloved hometown. "Reading my great-grandmother's memoir, which she wrote at age 86, inspired me to tell my story," explained Todd, age 76. "And now I am hoping to pass that inspiration on to others." The Todds were a well-known Valley Stream family: his father Bill held the position of Village Trustee for nine years. Walter's five brothers and their youthful antics fill up the pages and make for a delightful read.

"Valley Stream of Yesteryear, the Society's Facebook page, has been the go-to site for Valley Stream nostalgia and local history for many years," explained Amy Bentley, board trustee. "Members of Yesteryear are constantly sharing beautifully written, funny, often poignant stories. The Society wanted to capture that energy and give Streamers a permanent place to house their memories. Archiving stories on our website will ensure that their memories live on."

The Society is not looking for perfectly polished manuscripts. They are more interested in honest narratives of Valley Stream childhoods, schooling, adulthoods, leisure activities and cultural events. Immigrant stories are especially welcome. Submissions can be any length and photos are welcome. "We are grateful to Walter Todd for submitting the first memoir and kicking off this project. Please send your stories and keep Valley Stream history alive," concluded Bentley.

To read Walter Todd's story and for instructions on how to submit your own memories, please visit the Society's webpage at www.vsvny.org/historical and click on the "*WriteOn*" link.

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Valley Stream Historical Society

In 1973, the Valley Stream Historical Society, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization was formed. In 2000, the New York State Board of Regents granted the Society its Absolute Charter. Mission Statement: "To bring together people who are interested in the history of Valley Stream and to collect and preserve historical records for the purpose of educating and fostering interest in our community." Additional information on the Society can be accessed at www.vsvny.org/historical