

PANORAMA



President.....Marjorie Chvatal
 Vice President.....Kevin Egan
 Recording Sec'y.....Ruth Anholzer
 Corresponding Sec'y.....Margaret Dalton
 Treasurer.....George Donley, Sr.

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Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XIX, No.4

JANUARY 1992

N E X T M E E T I N G

Wednesday,
 January 15, 1992
 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal
 Church Hall
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
 Valley Stream

Program

"THE STREETCAR: ITS HISTORY AND ITS REBIRTH"

Victor Fetter

Our speaker this month, Valley Stream resident, Victor Fetter, developed his interest in trolleys and streetcars at the tender age of 3. He was discovered near the tracks during rush hour and was suitably punished by his parents.

He admits to being an electric railway nut, and is a member of the Branford Electric Railway Museum in East Haven, CT, where he holds the position of motorman. Mr. Fetter has been on virtually all streetcar systems in America. He and his Dad traveled many miles on trolleys before this method of transportation disappeared from the scene in the 1950's. His grandfather owned a paddlewheel which traveled the Mississippi, and his Dad worked for the Interstate Commerce Commission. And, to complete this family tradition, his own two sons have an interest in electric railways.

Another great program for us! It should bring back a lot of memories for many of us. In addition, Mr. Fetter says that streetcars are on their way back. Be sure to plan to come to our first meeting for this new year!

Refreshments will be supplied and served by Fran Holz, Marge Finkenshtadt, Evelyn McQuade and Jean West. Thank you, ladies.

* * *

What This Country Needs... is fewer inventions and more mechanics to service those we already have.

(Reader's Digest)

NEW YORK HARBOR CRUISE... Claire McMahon is coordinating a four-hour narrated tour around the waters of New York Harbor to be held in April. The guide will be Frank Duffy, who is the Public Relations Director of Moran Towing Company. Frank is very knowledgeable in both the history and geography of the harbor; in short, he "knows it like the back of his hand." The cost is \$35 per person and will include a hot buffet lunch. You can bring your car as protected parking is available near the dock, or we can provide bus transportation at an additional cost. To ensure space for us on the boat, Claire must have your reservation with a \$10 deposit by January 15th. If you cannot see her at the January meeting, give her a call at 561-9879. Don't miss out on this tour of the real working New York waterfront, as it will encompass more than you've ever seen of the harbor. And, we won't have to be concerned about possible inclement weather as the ship has a window-enclosed deck. (We missed out on the last cruise Frank conducted; let's not let it happen this year!)

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT... Bill Groneman's program on The Alamo at our November meeting was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

An antique inkwell with a place for sand to blot ink has been donated by the Society by Helen Reeves, and we thank her. It will be used on a desk in the Museum.

Also at the November meeting, Frank Keogler presented to VSHS President Marge Chvatal a new flag he had gotten from Congressman Ray McGrath. This flag, which had flown over the Capitol, will replace the Restoration flag, which had gotten quite shabby.

A group of 31 Cub Scouts will be given a tour of the Restoration on Monday, January 6th. This will be our first requested tour and we are very pleased!

The work is progressing beautifully at the Restoration. So much more of the painting has been completed, including the original kitchen cabinets. And, the new operational kitchen will soon be completely installed. It's an exciting project for all involved. It's been long-awaited and is sure to be worth every minute. We'll look forward to Ted's next update at the January meeting!

MR. WILLIAM F. STRIS
41 PARKWOLD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11580

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Valley Stream Historical Society
P A N O R A M A
P. O. Box 22
Valley Stream, New York 11582

BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND
By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - PART XXII

Some time ago, the Society received a xerox copy of this newspaper clipping--newspaper and date unidentified. The Society would be interested in knowing the name and date of the paper. If anyone has this information, please write to the Society.

LIEUT. SCHMIDTCHEN KILLED IN COLORADO, RESIDENT OF VALLEY STREAM

Civil authorities today tentatively blamed a "terrific downdraft" for the crash of an army bomber in a barren field near Watkins, Colo., that killed Lieut. Robert Paul Schmidtchen, Jr. of Regent Street, Valley Stream, another officer and seven enlisted men. Army authorities virtually eliminated the possibility that lightning or a bomb explosion might have caused the tragedy.

The plane, a B-18-A, Douglas medium bomber, crashed in an electrical storm Thursday night. Although army experts said that eight or nine possible explanations were under study, the electrical wiring eliminated the lightning theory and 15 unexploded bombs were found in the wreckage....

All the dead were attached to the 37th bombardment squadron, training...at Lowry Field. They died instantly.

Lieutenant Schmidtchen, co-pilot of the wrecked bomber, was 26 years old. He had been training for the air service for a year and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the reserve last May....

His parents had received a letter from him on Thursday, telling how much he liked the air service.... He was engaged to Jean Rawls of San Antonio, Texas. They planned to be married in a year.

Lieutenant Schmidtchen graduated from Valley Stream Central High School in 1931. As an undergraduate, he earned the praise of school officials as one of the finest musicians ever enrolled at the school. He played cello in the school orchestra. He graduated from Syracuse University, where he majored in music....

Last year he entered army aviation as a cadet at Tuscaloosa, Ala.,... and later transferred to Randolph and Brooks Fields in Texas.

Lieutenant Schmidtchen's family (gave) permission to army authorities at Denver yesterday for the cremation...there. The airman's ashes will then be returned to Valley Stream under military escort....

The wrecked plane was piloted by Lieutenant Wilbur A. Champagne of Denver. Just before it crashed, the plane had been in communication with its base at Lowry Field,...the radar operator gave no indication that the plane was in any serious trouble at that time.

(To be continued)

* * *

CAN AND CANNOT...I don't want men of experience working for me. The experienced man is always telling me why something can't be done. He is smart; he is intelligent; he thinks he knows the answers. The fellow who has not had any experience is so dumb he doesn't know a thing can't be done--and he goes ahead and does it.

--Charles F. Kettering

* * *

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 Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XIX, No. 5

FEBRUARY 1992

N E X T M E E T I N G

Wednesday,
 February 19, 1992
 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal
 Church Hall
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
 Valley Stream

Program

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM
OF
NATURAL HISTORY--
A TOUR

Joseph Green

Valley Stream resident, Joseph Green, will present a slide presentation that will take us on a journey through time when dinosaurs roamed the earth. We will see members of the animal kingdom in their natural habitats, visit other continents, and even explore the outer reaches of space--without ever leaving our seats!

Mr. Green spends his retirement as a volunteer at The American Museum of Natural History and this presentation is being made available to us through the Museum's Outreach Program. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Green was an engineer and President of Greenvale Associates, P.C.

We are certainly looking forward to his program!

Refreshments following the program will be provided and served by Agnes Libath, Marge Dalton, Adele Melillo, Pauline Hawkins and Bertha Ballou--and we do thank them!

* * *

Please mark your calendars: Due to Lenten services, our March and April meetings will be held on Tuesdays, rather than the usual Wednesdays. The new dates are March 17 and April 14th.

* * *

Thought for St. Valentine's Day--
 "Love and friendship are the greatest things in life."

RESTORATION UPDATE: As Ted reported at the January meeting, the work continues along according to schedule. The walls and woodwork on the first floor have all been painted and the floors finished, too. The second floor painting will be completed this month and then the third floor work will probably be scheduled before too long. Those of us who have seen it can attest to how great it looks!

And, we are so appreciative of Mrs. Isabelle Drach, president of the Freeport Historical Society, for donating six display cases to us. How lucky we are to have such a good neighbor! Thank you, Mrs. Drach!

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT...Member Victor Fetter's program on the history of street-cars at the January meeting was most interesting.

Helen Dowdeswell and Adele Hagmann are still busy taping for our Oral History program. Don't forget to borrow these tapes from the Waldinger Library. Our own president, Marge Chvatal, was one of the more recent participants.

NEW YORK HARBOR CRUISE...There are a few reservations still available for this April 25th four-hour narrated tour around the waters of New York Harbor. The cost is \$35 per person, including a hot buffet lunch. Full payment is due by the February meeting, with checks made payable to the Valley Stream Historical Society and sent to our post office box. For those who do not wish to drive to Brooklyn or lower Manhattan, Claire McMahon has hired a bus; round trip fare is \$12 per person, and seats will be assigned in order of receipt of payments. [These checks should also be made payable to the Society.]

The cruise will be from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. However, the bus will leave the Hendrickson Park parking lot at 9:00 a.m. to allow plenty of time for any delays in getting to Red Hook and boarding the boat. For any other information or details, call Claire at 561-9879.

* * *

How True..."By the time we realize our parents may have been right, we usually have children who think we are wrong."

MR. WILLIAM F. STRIS
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BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - PART XXIII

During 1944, the front pages of the Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald were dominated by stories of the War.

January 27, 1944 issue: Paul S. Lawrence, ... former state commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, has been promoted from major to lieutenant colonel according to orders received from General Eisenhower's headquarters in North Africa... Lt. Col. Lawrence has been a resident of Valley Stream for the past 16 years, at 165 Cochran Place. During (World War I) he served overseas with the 37th Division for 13 months. Since that time he was on reserve and continued to keep active in Army circles. His wife, daughter and son still reside at the Cochran Place address. In the present conflict, Lawrence participated in the Allied invasion of North Africa at Fedala, French Morocco on November 18, 1942; the complete campaign in Tunisia; the invasion of Sicily in July and the invasion of Italy in September. He is...still active in the Italian campaign.

April 13, 1944 issue: The "Armored News," an Army weekly newspaper, gives a glowing notice of one of Valley Stream's own, and when the article was read by Warrant Officer Dominick Stacey, a former staff member of the Valley Stream Mail, he shot the story along to this office so that all might read of another resident cheerfully offering his all for all of us. The story reads:

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY - By choice, the Fifth Army for the duration will remain the home of gray-haired, 51-year old Cpl. William H. MacLean, Valley Stream, Long Island, N. Y.

"Pop," as he is known affectionately by signalmen with a Fifth Army unit, prudently ignores notices to the effect that soldiers over 38 years old may return to the United States.

A field artilleryman in France during World War I, MacLean is serving in a signal outfit on the Anzio-Nettuno beachhead. A veteran of invasions, he has followed close behind the infantrymen since the Salerno landing. Deemed one of the busiest workers in the outfit, working behind a busy switchboard, "Pop" calmly sends messages across the beachhead as the battle rages. When the bombing is over, he says, "Well, boys, let's check for wire breaks. That last bomb sounded pretty close."

April 13, 1944 issue: Sergeant Arthur Matthews, well known to those who followed sports at Central High School several years ago, has been awarded a citation for combat duty in the New Britain campaign, it was revealed this week. Mrs. Roy Chapman of 34 North Central Avenue, sister of the war hero with whom he lived in the Village, was notified ...of the honor bestowed upon the 26-year old Marine.

Specifically, he was given the citation of a Silver Star for "directing the fire of a battery of mortars, which played a large part in breaking up Japanese attacks on eight consecutive days" at Cape Gloucester, New Britain. The sergeant and his men also hold citations for their bravery at Guadalcanal.

Matthews, a graduate of Central High School, where he was prominent in boxing, football and baseball, enlisted in the Marines in February 1939, and was trained at Parris Island, S.C. He went overseas in May 1942 and took part in the first invasion of Guadalcanal.

(to be continued)

* * *

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VOLUME XIX, No. 6

MARCH 1992

N E X T M E E T I N G

Tuesday,
 March 17, 1992
 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal
 Church Hall
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
 Valley Stream

Program

AN EARLY HISTORY
 OF
 LONG ISLAND AVIATION

Nat Quinn

We've always enjoyed all the programs on aviation that we've had over the years and tonight's is sure to be no exception. Mr. Nat Quinn will tell us, from personal experience, what it was like working and living on a flying field (Curtiss Field, Garden City), and about the people who flew them and the people who fixed them.

Mr. Quinn joined the Curtiss Flying Service in 1925, learned to fly on Curtiss Jennies, earned his first pilot's license, which was signed by Orville Wright. He was there with Charles Lindbergh, worked with him and even got to fly with him.

Mr. Quinn is a senior member of the American Society of Appraisers.

Do plan to come to hear of Mr. Quinn's wonderful experiences.

Refreshments for this evening will be brought and served by Peg Keller, Grace Donley, Madeline Kappauf, Carol McKenna and Elinore Weis. Thank you, ladies!

* * *

Next month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14th.

* * *

NEW YORK HARBOR CRUISE UPDATE:

The buc will leave Hondrickson Park at 9:00 a.m. sharp (please be there by 8:45) on Saturday, April 25th. Cars should be parked on the south-east corner of the Park parking lot. Claire McMahon will give you VSHS I.D.'s for your windshields.

For those driving to the piers, here are the directions: From the south shore: Belt Parkway west to Gowanus elevated expressway. Bear to extreme right and exit by sign for Brooklyn/Queens Expressway/Hamilton Ave. Bear to the left; stay straight on Hamilton Ave. for 3 blocks. Turn left in front of entrance to container port on to Van Brunt St. Follow Van Brunt to Van Dyke St; make a right turn and proceed 1½ blocks to Pier 41 parking lot on left side of street. From Connecticut, Brooklyn, Queens and north shore: Take LIIE to Brooklyn/Queens Expressway to Hamilton Ave. exit. Follow Hamilton Ave. (eastbound) to traffic light; make a left turn, go under the overpass and make another left turn to Hamilton Ave. (westbound) for 3 blocks. Turn left in front of entrance to the container port onto Van Brunt St. Follow Van Brunt to Van Dkye St., make a right turn and proceed 1½ blocks to Pier 41 parking lot on left side of street. For those driving into Manhattan: Pier 9 is on the East River at the foot of Wall Street, off South St. on the lower east side. There is paid parking in the area. The MYSTIQUE is docked on the north side of the pier. For any other information or details, call Claire at 561-9879.

* * *

RESTORATION UPDATE: Ted Libath announced that antique telephones have been donated by Marion and Phyl Raeder, and the New York Telephone Pioneers are going to rewire and restore them. And over the past weeks, painting throughout the house has been done by Jim Buckley, Joe Chvatal, Walter and Charlotte Facompre, Peter Hees, Fred Sherdel, Will Thornhill and Merv Van Nost-rand. Ted will also need volunteers to join committees needed to work on decorating the rooms, as well as for publicity when the house is officially open.

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT...Our sympathy to member Henry Krooss on the death of his dear wife, Tacey, on February 4th.

Bert Keller paid a lovely tribute to the late William C. Hammond at our January meeting. Bill secured our Charter and was responsible for our being legalized by the government. He was a staunch supporter and good friend to this Society. We shall miss him. We extend our sympathy to his beloved wife of over 60 years, Agnes.

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BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND
By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - PART XXIV

As shown in the pages of the Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald, the Village chapter of the American Red Cross was one of the most active and effective organizations in the War effort.

March 16, 1944 issue: For services rendered, more than 100 Red Cross service bars were distributed to women of the Village chapter at a Red Cross rally held in the Franklin Avenue School.... H. R. Roberts, (Red Cross) official...from Freeport, spoke to the gathering and reviewed some of the work undertaken by members of the Red Cross, both in this country and abroad. In particular, he mentioned the great number of lives that have been saved and would be saved with bloom plasma, the collection which is under the jurisdiction of the members.... Mr. Conrad Schulleri, chairman of the Valley Stream branch, introduced the other speakers, including P. B. Sprague, head of civilian defense in Valley Stream, and William B. Houston, section head of the war fund drive.... Howard Clinchy, vice-chairman, made the bar presentations.

April 13, 1944 issue: William F. Smith, chairman of the Valley Stream War Fund Drive, reported last night that \$9,800 has been collected to date and with but \$1,200 more needed, he looked forward to a final effort...to meet the \$11,000 quota.... Records revealed that still many residents had not yet given to the fund, and they, in particular, are asked to make their contributions, either to their captains or the Valley Stream National Bank or at the Municipal Building before the weekend. The entire county is within \$100,000 of the \$829,000 quota.... The Junior Red Cross in schools throughout Nassau has raised about \$9,000 for the War Fund....

April 20, 1944 issue: Mrs. George Spink, chairman of the Valley Stream Motor Corps, announces that more women are needed for the local unit. Women with driving experience may avail themselves of a rare opportunity to serve the Red Cross and their country.... The services of the Motor Corps are varied. Nurses aides are transported to hospitals for duty and welfare patients for treatment; local hospital ambulances are driven on regular shifts; volunteers also drive Mitchel Field army personnel in staff cars;... there is a garage maintenance duty one day a month; ... driving trucks to a pier in New Jersey with supplies for overseas....

The Valley Stream branch of the American Red Cross Motor Corps was organized in February 1942. Nassau County now has the largest Motor Corps in the entire country. Nevertheless, more volunteers are needed.... Requirements--To Join the Motor Corps. a woman must hold a driver's license, be a citizen of the United States, show a doctor's [certificate] of health, [be] between 18 and 60 years of age.... Displays of Motor Corps activities and uniforms have been placed in the library, the theatre and the store on the corner of Rockaway Avenue and Valley Stream Boulevard.... Women who wish to volunteer may call Mrs. Spink, and her number is Valley Stream 7126-J, or [they] may register at the Motor Corps desk in the theatre.

April 20, 1944 issue: Although a definite quota has not yet been set, additional work has come into the Valley Stream Red Cross surgical dressings workrooms. Mrs. Lawrence Grissom...chairman, is appealing for more volunteers. The workroom is located in the Municipal Building and volunteers meet on Mondays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(To be continued)

* * *

Sooner or later a busy person learns to write things down. It's the best way to capture things we are apt to forget. "The strongest memory," says an old proverb, "is weaker than the palest ink."

* * *

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VOLUME XIX, No. 7

APRIL 1992

N E X T M E E T I N G

Tuesday,
 April 14, 1992
 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal
 Church Hall
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
 Valley Stream

Program

"VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II"

Al Mayernik

Al's latest program will consist of 100 slides of Valley Stream during World War II, as well as photos of Valley Streamers who served during the War. This is intended as a preliminary program only as the Society does not yet possess photos and information on many Valley Stream World War II Vets.

In conjunction with the slide program, Al's bulletin board in the Waldinger Library during April will also be titled, "Valley Stream in World War II." This exhibit will consist of pages from *The New York Times* of March 29, 1942 and the *New York Journal-American* of March 14, 1943, showing scenes of the Village's War effort.

As you well know from the series on World War II that has been appearing in PANORAMA, Al has spent many, many hours gathering information for this program and the exhibit. And, it is hoped that much more data will be submitted for inclusion in his collection.

All persons who entered the Services from Valley Stream during the War are cordially invited to the meeting.

Refreshments for this meeting will be donated and served by Ruth Anholzer, Marjorie Chvatal, Evelyn McQuade, Claire McMahon and Bertha Ballou. Thank you!

* * *

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, May 20th - Election of Officers
 Wednesday, June 17th - Chinese Auction
 and Strawberry Festival

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - This year's committee, consisting of Evelyn McQuade, Barbara Ehlinger and Helen Zang, will present the slate for 1992-93 at the April meeting. Election of officers and trustees will take place at the May meeting and the installation will take place at the June meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

NEW YORK HARBOR CRUISE

The buses will leave from Hendrickson Park at 9:00 a.m. sharp (please be there by 8:45) on Saturday, April 25th. Cars should be parked on the southeast corner of the Park parking lot. Claire McMahon will give you VSHS I.D.'s for your windshields. (Those planning to drive in should refer to the March issue of PANORAMA for directions.)

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT...

Mr. Nat Quinn is a delightful man and his program on Long Island aviation at our March meeting was just great!

Bert Keller and Marge Chvatal were among the many who enjoyed the charming programs presented by the students, teachers and parents in observance of the 100th anniversary of Wheeler Avenue School on March 11th. [The school opened in 1891 as a two-room school house with two teachers and 14 pupils.] Long Island cable channel 12 reporters also recorded the event and Bert was interviewed, telling of his recollections as a student. His parents also attended Wheeler. Congratulations to all associated with this fine school.

Ted Libath announced at the March meeting that he is in need of porcelain door-knobs for the Restoration. He suggests that we all keep an eye out for some at flea markets, etc. He has some but not enough for all the doors.

We are still in need of volunteers to serve on various committees connected with the Restoration. Lillian Weaver has graciously volunteered to handle publicity.

Ted has refinished the old icebox in the original kitchen; the antique telephone has been installed; second floor carpeting has been selected and ordered by Marge Chvatal and Helen Zang.

WORTH REPEATING..."Good old days start with good new days like today."

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BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - PART XXV

Every issue of the **Valley Stream Mail** and **Gibson Herald** had stories of the War, sometimes from the war zones and often from the homefront.

April 20, 1944 issue: Pvt. John Atkins of 175 Locust Street died at Camp Maxey, Texas, Sunday, April 16. He was inducted into the service February 22.... a resident of the Village for the past seven years. He was born in Holyoke, Mass., where he attended school and college. Before his induction, he was employed by Guarantee and Trust Company of New York. He is survived by his wife, Florence, two children, Donald and Janet The body will arrive this afternoon and will repose at the Meserole Funeral Home, 905 Rockaway Avenue.

April 20, 1944 issue: Staff Sergeant Edward J. Davey of this village enjoys the activities at home, despite the fact that he gets very few moments from the raging battle on the Italian front, to hear about it.... Sergeant Davey is proud of the cooperation we at home are giving to the bond drives and other agencies which directly benefit him. Here, read his V-mail letter addressed to the editor:

"I've been trying to write to you now for the last three months and now I finally got the chance. The **Valley Stream Mail** has been following me around from every location I have been sent to. At present it is being delivered to me in the front lines in Italy.... I can't tell how proud it makes me feel knowing that you people at home are backing us boys with everything possible. We don't mind fighting over here when we know we have your support. I can't say very much more about my location or what I am doing, but we do have the situation pretty well in hand.... Italy is a tough country and these mountains are cold and it rains most of the time. Thank you for sending the **Mail**...."

April 27, 1944 issue: SMALLEST UNIT LEAVE IN DRAFT

The contingent of six inductees which left from local board No. 723, Tuesday, was increased by two when John C. Kern and Oscar T. Olsen, both married men whose inductions had been cancelled, volunteered to go. The others who left were: William H. Cook, Herman W. Grafeld and Paul Hickey for the Navy, and James J. Tracey, Walter E. McCarthy and Edward J. Zichman for the Army. There was no fanfare, the men receiving the customary sweaters, candy and cigarettes, and walking to the railroad station without the escort of the high school band.

April 27, 1944 issue: Deceased members of the armed forces will be honored at the coming Memorial Day exercises, and parents and relatives are asked to submit their names to Frank Shanley of the Andrew Fatscher Post, American Legion, in order that a program can be arranged....

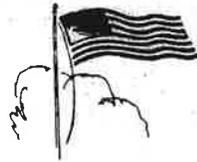
(To be continued)

* * *

BEAMS OF SUNSHINE...

Do an act of kindness, gladden someone's day;
Give a smile to someone passing by your way.
Share a thought with someone, it could mean so much...
Little beams of sunshine brightening lives you touch!

PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER

VSHS OFFICERS - 1991-92

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 Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XIX, No. 8

MAY 1992

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,
 May 20, 1992
 8:00 PM

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

Program

"FREEPORT NOW AND THEN"

Charles Zimmerman

As most of us know, Freeport is celebrating its centennial this year and we are fortunate to have Charles Zimmerman apprise us of its history. A member of the Freeport Historical Society for 22 years, Mr. Zimmerman was originally a trustee and is now in his second 5-year term as curator. In addition, he has been curator for the Village of Freeport for approximately six months. He is a school-teacher and has been teaching art and photography at Wantagh High School for 25 years. Mr. Zimmerman has a personal interest in genealogy, and has traced his family in Germany back to 1532 and in the United States back to the Revolution.

Sure sounds like another "not-to-be missed" program! And, following Mr. Zimmerman's talk, Vera Totten, Barbara Ehlinger and Florence Gunther will serve the refreshments which they

have graciously donated.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE...The 1992-93 Slate was announced at the April meeting, as follows: For President, Marjorie Chvatal, Vice President, Kevin Egan, Recording Secretary, Ruth Anholzer, Treasurer, George Donley, Sr., Corresponding Secretary, Kathleen Keely. For 3-year Trustees, Adele Hagmann, Robert Presbrey, Anthony Melillo. For 2-year Trustees, Helen Dowdeswell, Claire McMahon. For 1-year Trustees, Margaret Dalton, Walter Harrod, Dorothy Smith, Carol McKenna, John McKenna. The election will be held at the May meeting and nominations will be accepted from the floor. The installation of Officers and Trustees will take place at the June meeting.

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT...The New York Harbor cruise on April 25th was just great, despite the weather! Frank Duffy's narration was most informative and the food was delicious. Claire McMahon certainly did a yeoman's job in coordinating the whole trip. Take a bow, Claire! [So many organizations were represented, as well as former Villagers who now reside in Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, etc., including our own Audrey and Jim Boerckel. It was like "old home week" for many of us!]

We have again been invited to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on May 25th. Meet at Wheeler Avenue School at 9:00 AM. If you have one, please wear your VSHS tee shirt.



VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 22

Valley Stream, New York 11582

Date _____

Payment: Check

Cash

1992 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Expires June 1993)

Name _____

Renewal New

Address _____

Telephone _____

Individual.....\$ 7.00

Organizational.....\$ 25.00
 (clubs, business org., etc.)

Student..... 2.00

Sustaining (tax exempt gift) 50.00

Contributing..... 10.00

Family (4 or more in 1 family)... 15.00

Life (tax exempt gift).....100.00

BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - PART XXVI

The tremendous war effort by Valley Streamers continued without pause during 1944, as recorded in the pages of the Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald.

April 27, 1944 issue: A meeting of the Ground Observer Corps of the Valley Stream Warning Service will be held in the Brooklyn Avenue School on Saturday, April 29 at 12:30 p.m. Sergeant E. A. Voight of the First Fighter Command will review airplane recognition. He will also show Army films and slides. Chief Observer Fred Zender will award wings to daytime observers who have completed three months service.

May 4, 1944 issue: The Valley Stream Citizens Committee for Army and Navy Relief, which furnishes servicemen from the Village with sweaters, will have a benefit supper May 18 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Grace Methodist Church. Mrs. John Knowles will be in charge. Proceeds will be used to transport St. Albans hospital patients to Atlantic Beach in the summer.

May 4, 1944 issue: E. L. D. Seymour, horticulture editor of the American Home Magazine was the guest speaker at the Valley Stream Kiwanis Club Tuesday night at the Bob-n-Hen Restaurant, Merrick Road. His subject was "Victory Gardening in War Time."... "The surpluses of last year are rapidly diminishing," he said, "and if there should be a failure in crops this year, there would be a real scarcity of vegetables...."

May 11, 1944 issue: (The J2F6, fondly called "the Duck," was made by Columbia Aircraft at Valley Stream. In this article, the amphibian's sturdiness was credited with a successful hazardous rescue of a downed pilot off the Espiritu Santo Island in the New Hebrides group.)

...the telegram from the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics (to the president of Columbia Aircraft) (stated): "With waves breaking over his top wing, Major Ronald Campbell landed, picked up the pilot and taxied nine miles to the lee of the island where, in calmer waters, he could take off. The rescue plane was badly warped and sprung by the buffeting of the waves, but landed with rescuer and rescued intact."

"Your work on this plane, one of our most necessary rescue and utility planes, is vitally important and the Navy is confident, because of your record so far, that you will keep up your commendable performance...."

(To be continued)

* * *

Veterans interested in locating old service buddies might like to know that it might be done through a book made known to us by Ms. Marie Strona of the Waldinger Memorial Library. It is "How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been In The Military: Armed Forces Locator Directory" by Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson - 4th edition - 1991. (\$12.95) It is published by: Military Information Enterprises, P. O. Box 340081, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234. Telephone number: (512) 828-4054.

* * *

FAIR QUESTION...At the end of her first day working at a 24-hour convenience store, a customer walked in and asked the clerk, "Is this store open all day, seven days a week, 365 days a year?" "Yes," she answered, puzzled at the question. "Well, then," he continued as he walked out, "why are there locks on the doors?" (Reader's Digest)

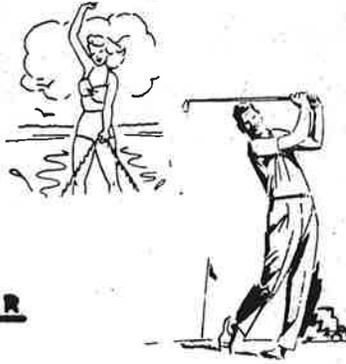
* * *

Valley Stream Historical Society
P A N O R A M A
P. O. Box 22
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

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MR. WILLIAM P. STRIS
41 PARKWOLD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11560

PANORAMA



VSHS OFFICERS - 1991-92

President.....Marjorie Chvatal
 Vice President.....Kevin Egan
 Recording Sec'y.....Ruth Anholzer
 Treasurer.....George Donley, Sr.
 Corresponding Sec'y.....Margaret Dalton

TRUSTEES

Claire McMahon, Chairman, Bd. of Trustees
 3-Year Trustees: Bert Keller, Evelyn McQuade, Anthony Fiero, Barbara Ehlinger, Eileen Brennan
 2-Year Trustees: Robert Presbrey, Adele Hagmann, Edwin Fare, Helen Zang, Alphonse Mayernik
 1-Year Trustees: Helen Dowdeswell, Claire McMahon, Walter Harrod, Anthony Melillo, Dorothy Smith

Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XVIII, No. 10

JUNE 1992

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,
 June 17, 1992
 8:00 PM

Williams Hall
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 7th Street (off Brooklyn Avenue)
 Valley Stream

**ANNUAL CHINESE AUCTION
 and
 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

Another ever-popular Chinese Auction will follow a short business meeting and the installation of the Officers and Trustees elected at our May meeting.

And, as usual, we need and will welcome all donations for the auction--knick-knacks of all kinds, games, jewelry, plants, stationery, wrapped mystery gifts, comic items, wine, and any other items you may care to give to the cause.

After 10:00 on the morning of the 17th, the Committee will be setting up the tables for a couple of hours. It would be very helpful if your donations could be brought in at that time. Otherwise, they can be brought in that evening, but no later than 7:45. It would also help if everyone could try to arrive a bit earlier tonight so that we can get the meeting started as close to 8:00 as

possible.

Admission will be \$4.00 per person, and this includes an envelope containing 100 chances for the items on the Auction, as well as for the delicious refreshments. Additional envelopes can be purchased for \$1.00 each.

Finger cakes and cookies to be served with the ice cream and strawberries will be supplied by Adele Hagmann, Marjorie Chvatal, Dorothy O'Regan and Evelyn McQuade, and we do thank them.

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT...We appreciate the participation of the following members in the Memorial Day Parade: Bert Keller, Ted Libath, Barbara Ehlinger, Jean West, Howard & Marion Clinchy, Ruth & Hank Anholzer, Agnes Libath, Walter Harrod, Charlotte Ames, Marjorie Chvatal, Adele Hagmann, Henry Krooss, Kay Keely, Helen & Alan Dowdeswell, Claire McMahon, Jay & Carol McKenna, Bob & Ruth Presbrey, Evelyn McQuade. A fine turnout!

It's membership renewal time again; please use the form below.

The next issue of **PANORAMA** will be sent out in September. We do wish everyone a very happy and enjoyable summer.

MUSEUM UPDATE...Ted Libath and Jim Buckley installed the tile floors in the two small rooms on the 2nd floor; Joe Chvatal has finished painting the display cases; 3rd floor work has been finished, with just the painting left to be done. Labor Day is the projected opening date, so lots of help will be needed!



VALLEY STREAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 P. O. Box 22
 Valley Stream, New York 11582
1992 MEMBERSHIP FORM
 (Expires June 1993)

Date _____
 Payment: Check
 Cash

Name _____ Renewal _____ New _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ Individual.....\$ 7.00 | _____ Organizational.....\$ 25.00
(clubs, business org., etc.) |
| _____ Student..... 2.00 | _____ Sustaining (tax exempt gift) 50.00 |
| _____ Contributing..... 10.00 | _____ Life (tax exempt gift).....100.00 |
| _____ Family (4 or more in 1 family)... 15.00 | |

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - Part XXVII

Even before the invasion of Fortress Europa, the list of Valley Stream casualties grew and werereported in the pages of the Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald.

May 11, 1944 issue: Second Lieutenant Edward J. Hammer, son of Mrs. Katherine V. Hammer of 100 Derby Street, is missing in action (in the European Theatre) according to information from the War Department.... Lieutenant Hammer received his bombardier's wings at a west Texas army field in April of 1943....

Later this week, the War Department announced that Sergeant Edward J. Davey, son of James E. Davey of 50 East St. Mark's Place was wounded while in the Mediterrean area.

May 11, 1944 issue: William Kerwin of 23 Avondale Street has been notified by the War Department that his son, Corporal John J. Kerwin, who was killed in action during the landing operations in Sicily, has been commended posthumously in the performance of his duties.

Corporal Kerwin was a confidential clerk in the Combat Command headquarters and, as such, had many responsible duties to perform. "He accomplished all those duties," wrote the War Department, "in a superior manner, working unceasingly and tirelessly to have all reports completed in time for the landing operations in Sicily. His zealous devotion to duty is an example which has inspired many of his comrades."

May 25, 1944 issue: Max Frederick of 121 West Valley Street Boulevard, has just received the Purple Heart from the Bureau of Naval Personnel, acting for the Secretary of the Navy. This award was made on behalf of his son, Harold Max Frederick, seaman first class, who was originally reported missing in action at Savo Island in the Pacific on August 9, 1942 and later declared deceased. He was 19 years old at the time. A brother, "Chappy" Frederick, former Valley Stream fire chief, is now a technical sergeant stationed at Camp Polk, La.

June 8, 1944 issue: Lieutenant Donald W. Wendt, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wendt of 24 Fifth Street, has been listed missing by the War Department.... He has been missing over Germany since May 11 and was a pilot on a B-17 Flying Fortress.

A friend, who had been stationed with him in England, was recently on leave. He visited Wendt's parents and told them their son had been awarded the Purple Heart and had only four or five missions before he would be granted leave to return to the States.

A graduate of Valley Central High School, ... Lieutenant Wendt won his wings last August at the Blackland Flying School, Texas, and has been in England since October. His brother, Lieutenant John Wendt, is a member of the signal corps and his step-brother, George Smith, is a member of a paratroop unit.

(To be continued)

* * *

NEWS AND NOTES... Many may have noticed Past President Ed Fare's absence of late. Well, his activity in the VS Fire Department might lend a clue. Having joined the Department in 1980, Ed has served as Treasurer of Hook & Ladder Co. #2 (on Clearstream Ave.), Department Warden (this council position is equivalent to Fire Commissioner) and Department Treasurer. And, now, Ed was recently elected Lieutenant--a rank that carries front line fire command activities. [You may have seen the recent front page story in the Valley Stream Herald that mentioned his involvement in correcting the major gas leak at Golden Apple Jewelry.] Ed hastens to assure us that "by no means have I 'given up' on the Society or the museum--but the office of Lieutenant is followed by Captain next year and it has understandably consumed most of my time."

[We certainly have missed having you around, Ed, but we do understand and want to express our pride in you and your promotion and the wonderful work and service provided by our dedicated volunteer fire department. Congratulations!]

* * *

Valley Stream Historical Society
P A N O R A M A
P. O. Box 22
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

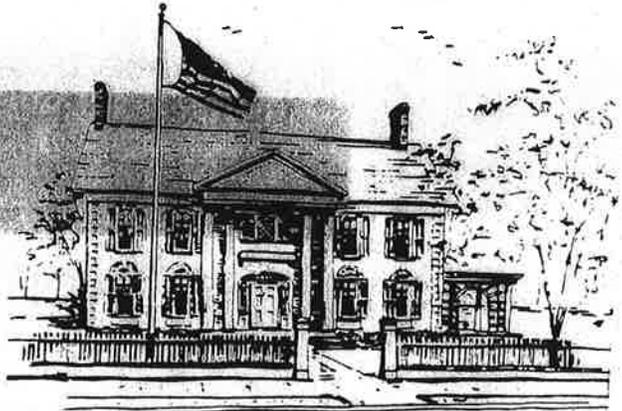
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MR. WILLIAM P. STRIS
41 PARKWOLD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11580

PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER



143 Hendrickson Avenue

SPECIAL ISSUE

AUGUST 1992

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

"S N E A K P R E V I E W!"

PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION

Labor Day, September 7th

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

At long last, the time has come to unveil this lovely house! Those who had seen it "before" and now "after," can readily attest to what a magnificent job has been done to restore it. This will be a "sneak preview" and the official opening will be held sometime in December. There will be no admission charge, but voluntary donations will be accepted.

It has been a very busy summer for all the many people involved with the Restoration. Various committees have been hard at work fulfilling their assignments and meeting with Claire McMahon, who is the committee coordinator.

For Ted Libath, chairman of the Restoration, it has truly been a labor of love, and one is hard put to find adequate words to express thanks and appreciation for all of his efforts. [He has told his wife, Agnes, that he would like to sell their home and move in here!] And, special thanks to Joe Chvatal, Jim Buckley, Fred Sherdel and Joe Gunther for the many hours of labor they have put in, as well as Merv Van Nostrand, Peter Hees and Charlotte and Walter Facompre.

For those who have been asking about donating historical items to the Restoration, we are going to have a "donation day" on **Saturday, August 22** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Restoration. Accession forms will be provided. Our Vice President Kevin Egan will be in charge.

We will also be needing any china, silverware (or stainless steel) and wine glasses you no longer need. These can be odd pieces from sets, but should be in good condition, with no chips.

In anticipation of maintenance and operating expenses at the Restoration, many fundraisers are being planned. The first major event will be an auction, sponsored by the Finance Committee of the Restoration. It will be held on **Sunday, October 25th** at the Elks Club. So, now is the time to scout around those attics, closets, basements and garages for those collectibles, antiques, jewelry and any other articles for this worthy cause.

On **Saturday, September 12th**, at a place to be announced, local auctioneer Frank Seipp will give oral appraisals of the articles, which then can be left with us or brought back on the day of the auction. Proceeds will be split 50/50 with donors; outright donations would also be appreciated. Further details in the next PANORAMA. Mrs. Nina Maurer is chairing the auction and can be reached at 825-4947. Much help will be needed for this event--physically, as well as financially, and volunteers can call either Mrs. Maurer or Frank Keogler (825-1041).

The Society is also working on a plan for fundraisers. They will be on a smaller scale, perhaps, but on-going. [Great oaks from little acorns, as we learned long ago!] For example, at our monthly meetings we will be having 50/50 drawings. We ask, too, that you try to make it a point to look over the items for sale at our little "Country Store." Eileen Brennan takes good care of it and tries to have "specials" as often as she can. We have scheduled a fundraiser trip to Atlantic City for October, which is listed on the other side. We will also be having events at the Restoration. With the bank interest rates so low, we can no longer depend on the income from Mildred Zulch's generous bequest. We must now find ways to cover our expenses by other means. So, please do support the Society's efforts--it's such a worthwhile organization.

MR. WILLIAM P. STRIS
41 PARKWOOD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11580

Non-profit Organization
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Valley Stream Historical Society
P A N O R A M A
P. O. Box 22
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Saturday, August 22** "Donations Day" - Pagan-Fletcher Restoration
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Labor Day, September 7** "Sneak Preview" - Pagan-Fletcher Restoration
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 12** Appraisals by Frank Seipp of articles for the Auction
Time and place to be announced
- Wednesday, September 16** Valley Stream Historical Society - Covered Dish Supper & Sing-Along
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall - 6:15 p.m.
Details in next month's PANORAMA
- Saturday, October 3** Columbus Day Parade - Valley Stream
Details next month - hope you'll join in
- Wednesday, October 14** Monthly meeting - Valley Stream Historical Society
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall - 8:00 p.m.
Slide program by Frank Duffy
- Monday, October 19** Fundraiser Bus Trip to Atlantic City - Casino to be announced next month. Bus will leave Hendrickson Park parking lot at 9:30 a.m.; return about 10:00 p.m. Cost is \$22 per person and includes tip for driver. Seats will be assigned in order of payments received. For reservations and information, call Evelyn McQuade - 791-2574. Payments should be made payable to the Valley Stream Historical Society and sent to P. O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022. (No cancellation refunds after October 10th.)
-
- Sunday, October 25** **AUCTION** - Elks Club, Valley Stream - Frank Seipp, auctioneer
Very important event! Major fundraiser!
More details next month
-
- November** Quilt Show at Pagan-Fletcher Restoration
Details to be announced
- December** Christmas Bake Sale and Gingerbread House Contest
Pagan-Fletcher Restoration
Details to be announced

* * *

Well, we're finally on our way! It is hoped that the Restoration will be a focal point for community spirit in Valley Stream. Village organizations, schools, veterans and fraternal organizations, churches, synagogues and other organizations are invited and encouraged to prepare displays for our exhibit rooms. We plan to have changing exhibits, as well as permanent ones. We want the Pagan-Fletcher House to be an historic site to be enjoyed, while informing and instilling a sense of pride in Valley Stream, past and present.

* * *

PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER

"Where we love
is home, home
that our feet
may leave, but
not our hearts."

(Oliver Wendell
Holmes)

VSHS OFFICERS - 1992-93

President.....Marjorie Chvatal
Vice President.....Kevin Egan
Recording Sec'y.....Ruth Anholzer
Treasurer.....George Donley, Sr.
Corresponding Sec'y.....Kathleen Keely

TRUSTEES

Claire McMahon, Chairman, Bd. of Trustees
3-Year Trustees: Barbara Ehlinger, Eileen
Brennan, Adele Hagmann, Robert Presbrey,
Anthony Melillo
2-Year Trustees: Edwin Fare, Helen Zang,
Alphonse Mayernik, Helen Dowdeswell,
Claire McMahon
1-Year Trustees: Margaret Dalton, Walter
Harrod, Dorothy Smith, Carol McKenna,
John McKenna

Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XX, No. 1

SEPTEMBER 1992

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,
September 16, 1992
6:30 p.m.
Holy Trinity Episcopal
Church Hall
Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
Valley Stream

COVERED DISH SUPPER

This annual event has been scheduled to take place at the opening of our new season. The door opens at 6:15 and members and guests are invited to start off the evening with a wine and cheese social. (Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.) Supper will follow at 7:00 p.m. Covered dishes should be brought according to the first initial in your last name, as shown below:

- A - G - "Starchy"-type, hot or cold. This might be rice, potatoes, beans, pasta, etc.
- H - O - Vegetable content, such as salads, casseroles, etc.
- P - Z - Dairy-type foods (eggs, cheese); gelatins, fruit; fish, hot or cold.

As kitchen facilities are limited, hot foods should be fully cooked and hot.

Do not bring meat or meat-content dishes. The Society will provide these items, as well as bread, butter, tea and coffee. Desserts will be provided by members of the Executive Board, in lieu of covered dishes.

Also, again this year, the Society will provide a tossed salad, so we ask that members do not bring any.

A minimum of \$3.00 per person will be collected at the door.

Guests are most welcome; however, they will be expected to adhere to the foregoing requirements, unless you undertake to do this for them.

Following the supper, there will be a short business meeting. And, to top off the evening--Bert Keller will once again lead us in a sing-along, as only he can do!

ATLANTIC CITY FUND RAISER TRIP

This is our first fund raiser of this type and we do hope members and guests will plan to join us on Monday, October 19th for this trip to Atlantic City. We will be going to the Sands Casino and we will be receiving \$8.00 in coins from them. The bus will leave Hendrickson Park parking lot at 9:30 a.m., returning at about 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$22 per person and checks should be made payable to the Valley Stream Historical Society and sent the P.O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582 with the envelope marked for the attention of Evelyn McQuade. Bus seats will be assigned in order of payments received. No cancellation refunds after October 10th. For reservations and information, call Evelyn at 791-2574.

AUCTION APPRAISALS... On Saturday, September 12th at the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration, auctioneer Frank Seipp will give verbal appraisals of articles to be auctioned on Sunday, October 25th. He will be at the Restoration from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. You may leave the articles at the Restoration--receipts will be given. Proceeds will be split 50/50 after the items have been sold. For further information, call Mrs. Nina Maurer at 825-4947. Volunteers to help out at the auction will be needed, and if you'd like to help, call either Mrs. Maurer or Frank Keogler (825-1041). This auction is the first major fundraiser for this year sponsored by the Finance Committee of the Restoration. Your participation is greatly needed and will be very much appreciated.

* * *

BITS OF THIS 'N' THAT... Many thanks to all of you who brought those interesting items to the Restoration last month. Kevin Egan was very pleased and will be giving us a report on just what was received. [Among other things, a beautiful rug for the living room was donated by VSHS member, Elinore Greacy Weis.]

We were sorry to learn of the recent passing of Alonzo Gibbs in Maine. He was such a talented man and well-known by many of us in Valley Stream. We extend our sympathy to his family.

MR. WILLIAM F. STRIS
41 PARKWOLD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11580

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

BITS OF HISTORY, MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayerlik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - Part XXVIII

The Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald continued its coverage of the efforts of the villagers during the dark days of 1944.

April 27, 1944 issue: A meeting of the Ground Observer Corps of the Valley Stream Aircraft Warning Service will be held in the Brooklyn Avenue School on Saturday, April 29 at 12:30 p.m. Sergeant E. A. Voight of the First Fighter Command will review air-plane recognition. He will also show Army films and slides. Chief Observer Fred Zender will award wings to daytime observers who have completed three months service.

May 11, 1944 issue: Cercle Francais, the French club of Central High School, will hold its second annual soiree at the school May 18.... The custom began in 1943, when members of the club held a fete in honor of two visiting French sailors, Marcel Bourgarit and Jean Gimenez. Miss Avery, teacher of French at the high school, spoke to Mme. Ninon Valdy of Valley Stream, who has promised to try to bring several French sailors from New York for the evening. Mme. Valdy was the contact between Valley Stream and the visitors of last year.... All French speaking people in the Village and vicinity are invited to this and subsequent celebrations sponsored by the club.

May 11, 1944 issue: An urgent appeal for used baseball gloves, mitts, balls and other equipment has been issued by Mrs. William Floyd, director of the Junior Organization of the Valley Stream American Women's Voluntary Services. The equipment...will be given to the Red Cross...at St. Albans hospital, who in turn will distribute the much-needed articles to the hospitalized servicemen.

May 11, 1944 issue: A benefit performance at the Valley Stream theatre will...attract many who wish to aid and comfort patients at the St. Albans Hospital. The program will be sponsored by the Valley Stream Kiwanis Club and the admission to the excellent presentation will be one package of cigarettes from children and two packages from adults. The date has been set for May 27 and the attraction will consist of 11 Disney cartoons, guaranteeing hundreds of laughs, according to Ben Mindlin, manager of the theatre, who is taking an active part in making the event successful. He is also a member of the Kiwanis Club....

May 18, 1944 issue: The Valley Stream unit of the Citizens Committee for the Army and Navy have arranged for a supper to be held tonight, Thursday, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Grace Methodist community hall.... Mrs. John Knowles, chairman, stated that the proceeds of the supper will benefit the patients at the Atlantic Beach club for convalescent Navy men. She said that members of the unit would serve at the Navy club once a week during the summer months.

(To be continued)

* * *

Space does not permit including the entire piece, "What is a Senior Citizen" submitted by VSHS member Jane Sutter, but here is part of it: A Senior Citizen is one who was here before credit cards, ballpoint pens, computers, cable, video and The Pill...A chip was a small piece of wood. Hardware was hardware. Software wasn't even a word. Rabbits were not Volkswagons. Fast food was something we ate during Lent. Bikini was an island. If we were asked to explain VCR, CIA, NATO, ERA and IRS, we'd probably say it was alphabet soup.

* * *

DON'T FORGET THE "SNEAK PREVIEW" AT THE PAGAN-FLETCHER RESTORATION ON LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, FROM 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

Pagan - Fletcher Restoration



Robert Pagan, a farmer, and his wife, Ellen, came from Scotland to this area, known as Near Rockaway, about 1837. He opened a general store near the corner of Hendrickson Avenue and Henry Street (now known as North Fletcher Avenue). There he established the first post office and renamed the area Valley Stream.

The site the Pagans occupied is now known as the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration. Ellen Pagan opened the home for religious services which were conducted by an itinerant Methodist Minister. Thus the residence served as a farmhouse, a general store and a religious center.

On the marriage of their daughter Catherine to William Fletcher, circa 1847, the house was enlarged and eventually was owned by Catherine and William. Circa 1910-1916, later Fletcher family members extended the house and added a Greek facade. Over the years the family was connected by marriage to the Boyds and the Fairchild's.

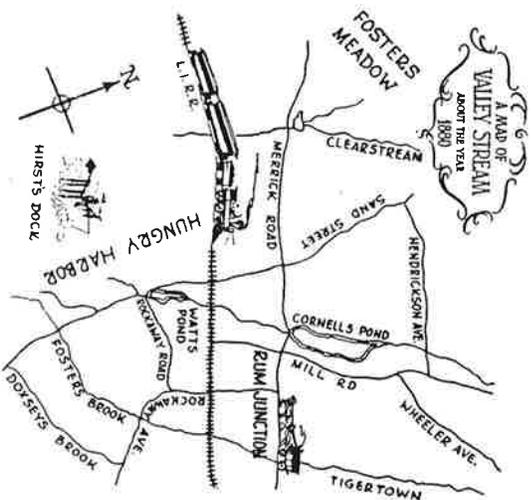
In 1929, the property was purchased from the Fetters by the Fairchild Publishing Co. It was first used by the Fairchild's as a

summer home and then as a year-round residence.

After World War II, there was a building boom and Valley Stream changed from a farming to a suburban community. In 1948, the Fairchild's sold the house and remaining ten acres to Lynwood Realty. The house was then used as an office during the construction of the Lynwood Homes on the property. In 1960, it was bought by the Valley Stream Terrace Corp. and was allowed to deteriorate until purchased by the Village of Valley Stream in 1977, after being designated as a National Historic Site.

Through the efforts of many citizens and the co-operation of several Village Boards, the Restoration was finally completed in 1992. This historic site is now owned by the Village of Valley Stream and administered by the Valley Stream Historical Society.

The Pagan-Fletcher Restoration is maintained for the purpose of displaying and/or making available for study such materials as may



establish and illustrate the history of the Valley Stream area.

There is a permanent display of a typical Victorian era parlor and kitchen on the first floor, a bedroom on the second floor and bathroom on the third floor. The cellar will only be opened for conducted tours.

The West room on the first floor holds changing displays related to local history. A "country store" is temporarily located in the foyer with sale items related to local history.

On the second floor there is a public restroom. There also is a meeting room which may be reserved by local organizations. Certain rooms not open to the public are reserved for use as storage and office space for the Restoration Administrators of the Historical Society.

There is no general admission charge. However, the Valley Stream Historical Society will gladly accept donations to help defray operating expenses of the Restoration. Watch for special monthly events!



Fletcher Store on Merrick Road & Central Avenue.

Pagan - Fletcher Restoration

143 Hendrickson Avenue

(between Fletcher & Corona Avenues)

Valley Stream, L.I., N.Y. 11580

Telephone (516) 872-4159 • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 22

Valley Stream, L.I., N.Y. 11582-0022

Parking: Other than during school hours,

Memorial High School parking lot

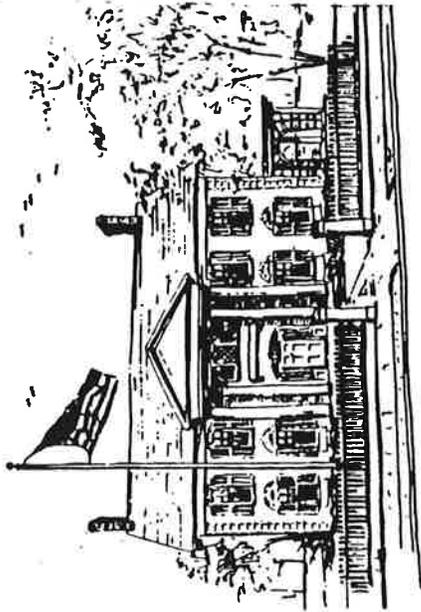
(corner of Fletcher & Hendrickson Avenues).

Welcome

to the

Pagan - Fletcher

Restoration



PANORAMA



NEWSLETTER

President.....Marjorie Chvatal
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 Recording Sec'y.....Ruth Anholzer
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 Editor: Evelyn McQuade

VOLUME XX, No. 2

OCTOBER 1992

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday,
 October 21, 1992
 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal
 Church Hall
 Brooklyn Avenue & 7th Street
 Valley Stream

Program

"OP SAIL 1992"

Frank Duffy

Here's another chance to see those magnificent "Tall Ships" that graced New York Harbor this past 4th of July. Our guest speaker this evening, Frank Duffy, will show and comment on his latest collection of slides, taken on that memorable day.

Frank, as you know, is director of public relations for the Moran Towing Company and knows the harbor so well (as we learned on the boat ride last spring). Those of us who have seen Frank's other programs can attest to the quality and enjoyment of his slide presentations.

Refreshments for this meeting will be donated and served by members of the Executive Board.

* * *

Cake donations will be needed for the November meeting, as well as at the 1993 meetings. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at this October gathering.

* * *

ATLANTIC CITY FUNDRAISER TRIP

There are still seats available on the second bus for this October 19th trip. The cost is \$22 per person. The casino is the Sands and the package is \$8.00 in coins. The bus will leave from the Hendrickson Park parking lot at 9:30 a.m. sharp, returning about 10:00 p.m. Checks should be made payable to the Valley Stream Historical Society and sent to P. O. Box 22, Valley Stream, NY 11582, marked for the attention of Evelyn McQuade. For reservations and additional information, call Evelyn at 791-2574.

MAJOR FUND RAISER

Don't forget the auction to be held on Sunday, October 25th at the Elks Club on West Jamaica Ave. This is a major fund raiser for the Pagan-Fletcher Restoration, sponsored by the Restoration Finance Committee. The auctioneer is Frank Seipp, and proceeds will be split 50/50 (half to the owner and half to the Restoration) after the items have been sold. Items to be auctioned can be viewed from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m., with the auction starting at 2:30. For further information, please call Mrs. Nina Maurer at 825-4947. If you would like to volunteer to help out that day, you can call Mrs. Maurer or Mr. Frank Keogler at 825-1041. Your support of this event will be greatly appreciated.

RECAP

Our Covered Dish Supper last month was a fun evening and a great start for our new season. The food was delicious and Bert Keller's Sing-A-Long topped off the evening. At the meeting held during the festivities, Bert Keller reported on the success of our "Sneak Preview" of the Pagan-Fletcher house on Labor Day. It was estimated that over 400 came to view the house; there were innumerable expressions of approval and delight. Bert expressed the gratitude of all of us to Ted Libath for his supervision and hands-on work, without which the restoration would not have been completed at this point in time; Claire McMahon, who coordinated the interior of the building, supervising the various committees, and whose determination to have the house ready for viewing on Labor Day came to fruition; Helen Dowdeswell for the brochure on the Restoration, and Marge Chvatal for the myriad of details she took care of singlehandedly. Ted and Marge, in turn, each thanked the many others who had volunteered their services throughout this enormous endeavor.

Marge announced that the Malverne Piece-makers will hold a fundraiser quilt show at the Restoration on November 21st & 22nd.

For all you holiday bakers, Eileen Brennan and Lil Weaver will be taking orders for pecan halves and pieces at the October meeting.

It was announced that \$300 in donations were given at the "Sneak Preview" and \$182 in sales at the Country Store. A very successful day in every way!

MR. WILLIAM P. STRIS
41 PARKWOOD DRIVE EAST
VALLEY STREAM NY 11580

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Valley Stream, New York
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P. O. Box 22
Valley Stream, NY 11580-0022

BITS OF HISTORY; MOSTLY LONG ISLAND

By Al Mayernik

VALLEY STREAM IN WORLD WAR II - Part XXVIX

During 1944, the pages of the Valley Stream Mail and Gibson Herald continued to chronicle the list of deaths, wounded, MIA's, and awards of Valley Streamers in the service of their country.

May 25, 1944 issue: Max Frederick of 121 Valley Stream Boulevard has just received the Purple Heart from the Bureau of Naval Personnel, acting for the Secretary of Navy. The award was made on behalf of his son, Harold Max Frederick, seaman first class, who was originally reported missing in action at Savo Island in the Pacific on August 9, 1942 and later declared deceased.

He had been a member of the crew aboard the U.S.S. Quincy. He was 19 years old.... A brother, "Chappy" Frederick, former Valley Stream fire chief, is now a technical sergeant stationed at Camp Polk, La.

June 8, 1944 issue: Lt. Donald W. Wendt, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wendt of 24 Fifth Street, has been listed as missing by the War Department.... He has been missing since May 11 and was a pilot on a B-17 Flying Fortress.

A friend, who had been stationed with the Fortress pilot in England, was recently on leave in this country. He visited Wendt's parents and told them their son had been awarded the Purple Heart and had only four or five more missions before he would be granted leave to return to the United States.

A graduate of Valley Stream High School, he was employed by the Tiffany Press in Lynbrook. Lieutenant Wendt won his wings last August at the Blackland Flying School, Texas, and had been in England since October. His brother, Lieutenant John Wendt, is a member of the signal corps, and his step-brother, Sergeant George Smith, is a member of a paratroop unit.

July 13, 1944 issue: Orders have been received from Lt. General Devers' Headquarters announcing the award of the Legion of Merit to Lt. Col. Paul S. Lawrence of 165 Cochran Place....

The citation reads: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from 14 March to 13 October, 1943. As the Commanding Officer of his Battalion, he constantly displayed exceptional leadership and great organization ability. By sound planning and untiring efforts, he fostered in the officers and men of his company, an 'esprit de corps' that has enabled them to perform record movements of personnel and supplies under battle conditions and in the rear areas. The high standards established by the Battalion as a unit in Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily and Italy are due largely to the enthusiastic initiative and energy of Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence in accomplishing a good job when the difficulties were the hardest. The high operating efficiency of amphibious vehicles (DUKS's) during the landings in Sicily and Italy are a tribute to his leadership."

(To be continued)

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While excavating an ancient tomb in Egypt, two archeologists found an urn containing food to nourish the dead upon the reawakening. Curious about certain engravings on the urn, they called in a professor of hieroglyphics, who gave this translation: "Best if used before 2000 B.C." (Reader's Digest)

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In order to maintain a well-balanced perspective, the person who has a dog to worship him should also have a cat to ignore him. (Peterborough Examiner, Canada)

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