

Calendar

December 3

GPS Meeting
 Galway Town Hall

7:00-7:30
 Social Half Hour

7:30 Business Meeting

8:00 Program

December 7

Pearl Harbor Remembered

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December GPS Update

From Virginia Sawicki and Bonnie Donnan

A very early Merry Christmas everyone! We will be continuing our custom of collecting contributions for the community Christmas Basket Project at our December 3rd meeting. New unwrapped toys, books puzzles, and games for children, gifts for adults, children's clothing, non-perishable food and monetary donations are all welcome. The project, supported by many community organizations, the area churches, the school, and Greater Galway Community Services Association, is headquartered at West Charlton United Presbyterian Church. Checks may be made out to WCUPC Basket Fund. Donations will be collected at the meeting.

Our November meeting was an interesting presentation by Barbara Delaney and Russell Dunn on the history of the Great Sacandaga Lake. Their trip home was marred by a rude encounter with a deer that required a tow to a body shop. The deer didn't fare well either.

The program for the December 3rd meeting will be "A Walk on Broadway, Saratoga Springs in 1874" presented by Charlie Kuenzel and Dave Patterson.

Keep our newsletter editor Kurt Johnston in mind. He can always use local articles for this newsletter

May everyone have a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a joyous holiday season.



Eighteen Years Ago at the Galway Preservation Society

Elsie Maddaus spoke at the May 2, 1994 meeting of the GPS. Her topic was "How to Trace Your Family Tree." The following notes about her talk were listed in the Secretary minutes for that meeting.

Why people start tracing their family tree:

- 1 – Most people wanted to join an organization like the DAR. (Daughters of the American Revolution –ed.)
- 2 – Medical reasons
- 3 – Religious persuasion – Mormons
- 4 – Make a Memorial to keep name alive – give to grandchildren
- 5 – Identity crisis – builds up self-esteem – security blanket – Roots.
- 6 – Detective work – some people enjoy researching
- 7 – Certified Genealogist – can legally charge money
- 8 – Finding relationship to someone famous

Buy or borrow reference books. "My Family Register" – fill in your own family tree. Charts are very important. Going to areas to look up information, leave names at Historical Societies to get in contact with others also doing research on the same line.

Where do you start? With yourself. #2 father. All men are even numbers. #3 mother. All women are odd numbers.

When you run out of what you know – then it's time to do your work.

In NYS vital statistics were not required until 1881.

Local history for Galway 4th grade students, in 1994

Sept. 12, 1994 minutes by Secretary Mary Anna Parish

Jo Lord told about her trips around town with 4th graders to view local sites in their history studies. Ruth Christoff also takes part. The program is well designed, going to the Waterwheel where the lady gives a lecture; then Mrs. Eaton tells them stories; Mr. Donnan tells about active working farms. They go to Top Notch for mystery – a little girl's tombstone uncovered under part of the building – a writer who had been there reported lights flickering and papers blowing askew and other times tools were missing. They also go to the cemetery at Green's Corners to look for family names and dates.

Galway Preservation Society

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