


 The logo for the Galway Journal Preservation Society. It features a crest on the left with a figure and a shield. To the right of the crest, the text "G·A·L·W·A·Y" is written in a large, serif font, with "PRESERVATION SOCIETY" in a smaller font underneath. To the right of this, the word "JOURNAL" is written in a very large, bold, serif font.
 

# G·A·L·W·A·Y JOURNAL

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

## ↻ GPS Update

by Richard English

With the approach of spring, our attention turns to the annual election of GPS officers and board members. Three one-year officer positions (President, Vice President, and Secretary) and one three-year trustee position are open for our next fiscal year starting June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mary Lynn Kopper, chair of our Nominating Committee, invites everyone to suggest nominees by contacting her at 882-9884. In April, she will announce the candidates running for each position in advance of the official vote at our May meeting.

Our March meeting included a program by Charlie Kuenzel entitled "Saratoga Springs: It All Began with the Water." High Rock Spring was visited by Sir William Johnson in 1771, the first time a European encountered the healing water (although the Mohawks had been frequenting the spring for over 400 years). Over the next few decades, dozens of springs tapped into the most highly-carbonated, mineralized, cold water springs in the world. In 1811, Gideon Putnam drafted a proclamation that the water must be provided free of charge at the springs. In order to make a profit from the water, John Clarke began bottling Congress Spring water in 1825 using trademark green bottles produced near Lake Desolation. When the railroad came to town in 1832, it became easier for the nation's wealthy to visit the community "for their health." Over the next few decades, growth exploded in Saratoga Springs. By 1872, the Grand Union was the largest hotel in the world (the Tiffany's store in the lobby sold more merchandise in the summer than the flagship location in New York City sold all year!). Rich and poor alike stood together in long lines to take their daily dose of healing water, making Saratoga a great place to rub shoulders with the nation's most powerful families. Over time, the deep underground aquifer that powered many of the springs became less productive. Saratoga Spring Water, founded in 1872 and still in operation today, now taps a shallower aquifer with fewer dissolved minerals than the saltier water that once characterized Saratoga's most popular springs. Saratoga currently hosts over 300 conventions a year for visitors who participate in a wide range of activities and diversions – but people need to be reminded by local historians like Charlie Kuenzel that "it all began with the water!"

Our April meeting will present "The Corner Store: Stories of the Galway Market, Then and Now." This program will focus on the role that Galway Market has played in our community and the people who have been an integral part of its history. The interactive presentation moderated by Mary Cuffe Perez will include photos, historical accounts, and the sharing of stories by community members. We look forward to hearing your perspective on how Galway Market has shaped, and continues to shape, our town – so please come prepared to share your own thoughts during what will surely be a memorable meeting.

### Upcoming Dates

**Apr 4 – Next Member Meeting at Town Hall**  
 7:00 pm Social Gathering  
 7:30 pm Business Meeting  
 7:45 pm Program

**Apr 13 – Next Board Meeting at Town Hall**  
 7:00 pm

Contact us at [galwaypressociety@gmail.com](mailto:galwaypressociety@gmail.com) or visit us at <http://www.galwaypreservationsociety.org>

*Please get in touch if you have an article to submit or an idea for an article: [mcuffeperez@gmail.com](mailto:mcuffeperez@gmail.com) or call 944-5843. We reserve the right to edit submissions, with the author's approval.*

## **↻ Still Minding the Store**

The Galway Market has stood at the crossroads of the Village of Galway since a dirt road ran in front of it and the first street lights were controlled by a time clock that Storekeeper Arthur Denison had to wind once a week. The longest going enterprise in the Village of Galway, the store was bought by Arthur Denison in 1923. Other Village stores still in operation since the early days are Galway Home and Garden, formerly McChesneys established in 1933, and Chuck's Store, previously Van's Flavorland established in 1954. Our April program features the Galway Market and its long history of contributing to Galway in many ways.



*Diane and Ted Lovelass*

## **↻ In Memory of Alice Bingham**



*Photo by Patricia Kay, from the Who Are You, Galway project*

Long-time GPS member Alice Bingham passed away on March 7, just three months short of her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. During more than 25 years as a member, Alice served as vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and board member, every office except president. She was a vital participant in GPS activities designed for the education and enjoyment of community residents.

In 1996, when Galway Town officials asked GPS to take on the responsibility of preparing exhibits for the showcases at Town Hall, Alice volunteered to head the committee. She was never at a loss for ideas. With strong community connections, essential for borrowing treasured items, and a talent for design, Alice led her committee in creating three or four outstanding displays each year: early 20th century businesses, kitchen implements, games and toys, sewing and crafts, antique Christmas cards, local artists' showcases, and more. She set high standards, a tradition that continues today.

Over the years Alice chaired several other committees: refreshments, program, Memorial Day sales and displays. As a member of the archives committee, Alice helped to accession items gifted to GPS. She accepted delivery of and distributed the reproduction Nathaniel Hudson stoneware crocks in the year 2000. She and her husband, Pat, hosted the June picnic for several years. And it was Alice who suggested that our Society find a way to replace the finial atop the Village watering trough!

I was fortunate to work closely with Alice on many projects. She and I co-chaired the Society's 1992 publication of the *Delia Denison Diary*, Alice served as treasurer when I chaired the Bicentennial Committee, and she was vice-president for two years while I served as president. Her encouragement, enthusiasm, and dedication were invaluable to me and to GPS. Let us celebrate the life of Alice Bingham and her contributions to GPS and to our community!

- Arlene Rhodes

## 🐾 Growing Up on the Donnandale Farm

by Bonnie Donnan

I spent my early childhood at Donnandale Farm, a member of the fifth generation of Donnans on the same soil. I say soil because, after all, it is a farm and soil is important. My memories stretching back to very early childhood are fragmented vignettes, colored by a child's understanding, interests, and comprehension.

I always had a strong affinity for animals. "Kitty" was my first word and "noisy geese" was my first sentence. My mother noted these in my baby book. Although I remember the kitty, and remember the noisy geese, and the feel of the chicken wire containing them at my DeRidder grandparents farm, I think that those three words were only the beginning. I was very familiar with frustrated adults, after what was probably at least the fifteenth question beginning with "Why..." giving me the answer: "to make little girls like you ask questions!"

Baby animals were always fun to observe. Lambs, born in the harsh cold of winter, spent their early days in a private pen in the sheep shed with their mother, and a heat lamp if it was really harsh. Sometimes a ewe wasn't really interested in being a mother, and if there wasn't another sheep willing to adopt the foundling, the lamb would spend some time in the cellar next to the warm coal furnace and be bottle fed. If the little one was weak, it would be wrapped in a worn-out flannel garment and be put next to the kitchen wood cook stove. I remember the feel of the nubby, carpet-like texture of the coats of these little ones during their bottle feeding stay in the house.

Many baby animals were brought back from a seemingly lifeless state by the flannel wrap ministering of my grandmother Donnan. Piglets, puppies, lambs, chicks, they were all given the benefit of a thorough warming if they had a shaky beginning in this world. The ones in dire condition were wrapped, put in a box or basin, and placed on the open oven door. One litter of fifteen collie puppies required some of this coddling since their mother was physically equipped to feed only eight. I remember a navy blue can with Elsie the cow on the label that was a powdered milk replacer for puppies, and a strange glass side-ways nursing bottle. The litter spent time split between their mother and the bottle next to the woodstove. That way they got mother's milk and full bellies.



🐾 **You can read more** about the Donnandale Farm in *Galway 1900 – 1949, A Photographic History*, available for \$40 at the Galway branch of Ballston Spa National Bank, Galway Town Hall, Waterwheel Village, and Providence Town Hall. Books also sold at monthly GPS meetings, or order on-line at [galwaypreservationsociety.org](http://galwaypreservationsociety.org). Please make checks payable to: Galway Preservation Society.



🐾 **??? Can you identify this item from Don Carpenter's collection?** Send in your answer to [mcuffeperez@gmail.com](mailto:mcuffeperez@gmail.com) and we will publish it in the next newsletter and your prize will be .... a cookie at the next GPS meeting!

Thanks to Don Carpenter for letting us into his wonderful collection of this and that's and also to Patricia Kay, photographer.

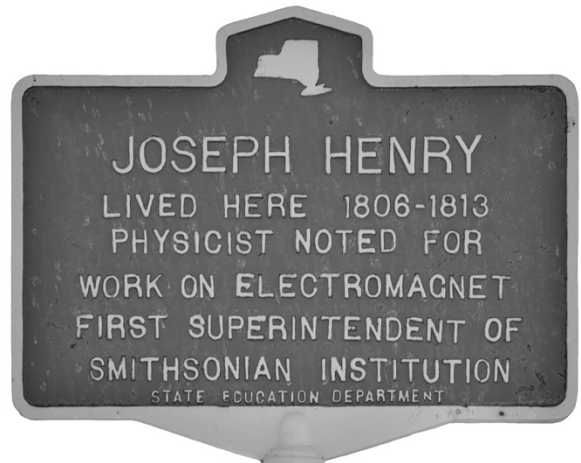
## **Joseph Henry**

### Historical Marker Profile #1

Galway is home to eight New York State Historical Markers. One of these markers commemorates Joseph Henry, who lived in Galway as a child from 1806 to 1819.

Joseph Henry attended the Albany Academy from 1819 to 1822, worked as a surveyor on the Erie Canal project, and became a professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at the Albany Academy in 1826. During his time at Albany Academy, Joseph Henry designed and developed the electromagnet and performed extensive research on electrical induction (the standard unit of induction is still known as the “henry” today).

He was appointed the first secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington in 1846 and was appointed president of the National Academy of Sciences in 1867. He died in 1878 in Washington, D.C.



The historical marker is located on the north side of County Road 45, just east of the Ambulance Corps building, the location of the house where Joseph Henry lived. The house has since burned down.

*Thanks to Phyllis Keeler and Tom Cwiakala who published a detailed write-up of this historical marker in the Fall 2010 issue of the Galway Reader.*

### **Galway Preservation Society**

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