



Calendar

January 5

GPS Meeting
Galway Town Hall

7:00-7:30
Social Half Hour

7:30 Business Meeting

8:00 Program

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January GPS Update by Virginia Sawicki

Belated Christmas wishes and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all!

It is with great sadness that we report the recent death of long-time member Davis (Dave) Bixby. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his widow Edna. For years, Dave recorded our monthly meetings and catalogued graves in innumerable local cemeteries. His memorial service will be held on January 10 at 1 PM at the Broadalbin Methodist Church. Dave will be greatly missed.

Please keep our President Bonnie Donnan in your thoughts and prayers as she recovers from a recent illness.

On a happier note, we celebrated the publication of our book *Galway 1900-1949: A Photographic History of Life in the Town of Galway, Saratoga County, New York* at our December 1 meeting. Arlene Rhodes presented an overview of the book, highlighting the history of its development and showed many of its photos. Since the meeting, over 250 copies of the book have been sold! Books can be purchased at the Galway branch of the Ballston Spa National Bank, Galway and Providence Town Halls, Waterwheel Village and at future GPS meetings. They can also be ordered by mail using the order form on the GPS website. Please look for an article about

the book in an upcoming issue of the Albany Times Union. In the interim, you can read about it on the reporter's blog <http://blog.timesunion.com/saratogaseen/book-documents-galways-history/22735/>

The book is also featured in the "Winter, 2014" issue of the local periodical "Life in Galway".

At the meeting, we also honored the Book Committee consisting of Project Leaders Arlene Rhodes and Ray David and members Don Carpenter, Tom Cwiakala, Bonnie Donnan, Phyllis Keeler, David Weaver (posthumously) for their diligent work over 15 years, as well as Evelyn Hanna, Lucille Millarson and Herb Kopper. The book has been receiving outstanding praise from purchasers! Please check the GPS website for photos of the gathering. The current display at Galway Town Hall features enlargements of photos from the book.

Our next monthly meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, January 5. Ed Pike will present a program entitled, "Building Technology 1800-2050: Progress or Regress?".

All members are also invited to attend the next quarterly Board meeting which will take place at 7 PM in Galway Town Hall on Wednesday, January 21 (snow date January 28).

Arlene ,
I picked up a copy of "Galway 1900-1949" at the Galway Library yesterday, and spent several hours looking through it. I have several books of this type in my library, for places like Clifton park, Ogunquit and York Maine, but this is definitely the best in my collection. It is very readable and informative, exceptionally well organized and the photos are surprisingly clear. You and your association have done an outstanding job.

I particularly enjoyed the section on Brian Simmons, who I recall as intelligent, kindly and generous individual, as well as a skilled and versatile teacher. It was interesting to learn that he maintained a home in Hyde Park. I can see how he would be comfortable in that genteel environment and his physical appearance in the photos reminds me of FDR. He helped me once with a minor crisis and I have never forgotten that. Other people from my experience in Galway that I remember fondly like Ethel Overbeek, Harry Robinson, Irene Kimball, Marjorie Balch, June and Ed Michelfelder, Olaf Hanson and Don Mealy, to name a few, are shown in photographs as I remember them, and it is pleasant to reminisce.

Art Dension's kindness (pg 214) was transferred to at least one of his sons. My paper route in the village consisted of small quantities of the Amsterdam Recorder and the Saratogian. Frequently, particularly in the winter, the Recorder carrier was late, requiring me to make a choice between covering the same ground twice, on foot, or waiting until it arrived. On West street my last customer was Olaf Hansen who lived about one mile from the corner. Dension's store closed at six pm on weekday nights and on occasions when the Recorder was late, Pugs would stop and pick me up as I trudged along the road to Hanson's. Then I might also get a ride from Olaf back to the center of town, particularly on snowy nights when he would visit the school to prepare for opening the next morning. I appreciated their help and as the years go by the memory of their kindness has not dimmed.

People like these made Galway a good place to live growing up in the 1950s and 60s. I also enjoyed the section on the Donnan family as well as other sections of the book.

Alan Maddaus

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