

Calendar

<http://www.galwaypreservationsociety.org>

June GPS Update

From Bonnie Donnan

June 2

Annual GPS picnic
6:00 P.M. see article

Welcome back to summer residents and migrating snowbirds. The clobbering hailstorm and rare and frightening tornado were rude greetings for your return.

Our May meeting was a program on the Mosher Plow Foundry, Waterwheel Village, Cheese Shop on route 29. Don Carpenter, author of a book on the foundry, spoke on the history. Priscilla Marvin, of the Cheese Shop, told of many features still existing in the building from early days. She also brought some absolutely wonderful sharp cheese and crackers. Phyllis Keeler, Town Historian, unveiled a copy of a new historical marker documenting the foundry. The annual election of officers was held at the May meeting. Re-elected for another term: Bonnie Donnan, president; Virginia Sawicki, vice president; Mary Lynn Kopper, trustee.

A new display is in place in the cases in the Town Hall lobby honoring the 35th anniversary of G.G.C.S.A. the Greater Galway Community Services Association. A big thank you to Mary Lynn Kopper, Judy Knowlton, Phyllis Keeler, and Martha Brandow for putting it together. On the subject of big thank yous, the gazebo in the Village Park is decked out in patriotic red, white, and blue in time for Memorial Day through the efforts of the Surdykas.

The annual members' picnic will be held at the Schweizer residence Monday June 2nd at 6:00. We are grateful for their hospitality. If you missed the May meeting, or if you were at the meeting and the picnic sign-up sheet missed you, give Sue Surdyka a call to find out which of your culinary specialties and favorite munchies are needed.

We will be having our annual auction at the picnic. Members are invited to bring one item, historical or Galway relevancy a plus, to donate.

Items will be available for preview before the sale.

We are making progress on our book "Galway in the 20th Century". It is a photographic history covering the first five decades of the 1900s. Some of you have seen sample pages at a meeting. We are happy to report that the Dockstader Trust is going to help with initial publishing costs. Publication is expected this fall.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Wednesday July 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. All members are welcome to attend. Another thank you to all of you who help all year long; Baking refreshments, setting up the chairs, serving on committees, updating the web site, distributing flyers. People pitch in and do what needs to be done.

Regular membership meetings will resume September 8th, the week after Labor Day. We'll see you then. Have a good summer!

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GPS speakers of the past

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Oct 3, 1994 minutes by Secretary Mary Anna Parish

“ The program was presented by Phyllis Sleeper on “The 4th Grade Trunk.” In fourth grade local history is studied, and in 1987 Jeanne Schwarz and Arlene Rhodes decided to establish the “trunk” which is a box containing various intriguing old utensils as resource materials. In true teacher style, Phyllis passed out papers and pencils for each person to list what they thought each item was used for – some of which stumped a lot of us. It was fun!”

April 5, 1993 minutes by Mary Anna Parish

Speaker for the evening was Dave Crane (cousin of Galway’s former mayor, Ed Ruman.) He has written a book, *He’s Gone with ‘Poop Da Long’* about his experiences with Barnum & Bailey Circus which he joined in 1947 and 1948. This year [1993] is the 200th anniversary of the circus in America. He was assigned to working in the diner and on concessions selling hot dogs for 20 cents and soda for 10 cents, also helping take down the “Big Top,” folding and loading into wagons. His book was based on letters he wrote home to his parents in Amsterdam in which he reported interesting statistics about the weather, the itinerary, etc. The first summer they travelled as far west as Denver, and the second summer they went all the way to the Pacific, a total of 20,000 miles. There were 60 to a car for sleeping. They travelled in four trains – 1st section was cookhouse, menagerie; 2nd tents, animals (40 elephants, 2 hippos, etc.), coaches, 3rd more flat cars, 4th section for performers and owners. He was paid \$40/

week and one meal in the cookhouse. Good food. Later in life he became a bank president in Amsterdam.

April 3, 1995 minutes by Mary Lynn Kopper, secretary pro tem

Speaker John Croft, Free Lance Hardwood Lumber Inspector.

Croft was born in PA, his father and grandfather were lumbermen who owned sawmill. At that time, they had no mechanical equipment. Boards were cut and carried by hand – nowadays big businesses are computerized, cutting is computer operated and boards can be cut thinner and more even than ever before. But grading must still be done by eye of skilled inspector. In his early days, sawdust was piled and sometimes burned down the mills. Today it is dried and used as bedding, packing, or insulation; bark used to be used as firewood, now it is used for mulch; last part of tree is used for toilet paper. Hardwood items include: laminated bowling pins, toothpicks, furniture, bowling alley floors, Scrabble chips, pianos, baseball bats, and much is sold overseas. In building the Olympics in Kores, wood was cut in USA, went to Saudi Arabia to be milled, and to Korea for buildings.

Galway Preservation Society

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