

Calendar

October 1

GPS Meeting at Galway  
Town Hall

7:00-7:30  
Social Half Hour

7:30 Business Meeting

8:00 Program

Table of Contents

Page One  
October GPS Update con-  
taining a great story

Page 2-4  
*A Time for Celebration!*  
*Mildred Hathaway Turns*  
*100.*  
By Arlene Rhodes

Kurt Johnston, Editor  
5140 Bliss Road  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
johnstonswinery  
@nycap.rr.com

<http://www.galwaypreservationsociety.org>

## October GPS Update

From Virginia Sawicki and Bonnie Donnan

Fall is creeping in. The temperature is cooler. Little glimpses of color are starting, and the voracious deer flies have blessedly departed. Autumn is a glorious season.

Our speaker for September was a budding historian named Andrew Crough. Andrew's interest in World War II history and his attention to detail and authenticity in his dioramas was impressive.

Dues for the 2012-2013 program year are due by October 15<sup>th</sup>. You can either pay at the October 1st meeting, or complete the form that was in the September newsletter and mail it in with your \$10 per household dues. The Galway Preservation Society mailing address is P.O. Box 276, Galway, 12074. Thanks to Jeanne Frank for her work organizing and updating the GPS scrapbook.

Two of our folks important to GPS have reached milestones. Uncle Mike Sawicki was 97 in early September, and Mildred Hathaway will soon reach the centennial mark. 100! We all join in wishing Happy Birthday to both. During a past GPS project Mildred would give a report at meetings on how many reproduction Galway crocks had been sold.

Every meeting would bring an update on the inventory and money taken in. A few of us began to tease her about skipping town to Brazil or Aruba with the funds. After the project was completed we saw Mildred's sense of humor when postcards from Aruba began arriving.

The next GPS Board of Trustees meeting will be Wednesday October 17 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. As always, all members are welcome to attend.

If you haven't had the time yet to check out the exhibit in the lobby of Town Hall please take a few moments. The beautifully detailed drawings document some of the travels of Clayton "Doc" Dockstader. He loved to travel, and was a master with a pen. Many of the originals were very small and were enlarged for the display with no loss of detail.

The next membership meeting will be Monday October 1<sup>st</sup>. The speaker will be Rick Reynolds, Town of Ballston Historian, on "History is not old, it's new!" Rick Reynolds was the speaker for our December of 2011 meeting, presented in the character and costume of Samuel Meredith, first Treasurer of the United States.

## A Time for Celebration! Mildred Hathaway Turns 100

By Arlene Rhodes

Long-time GPS members and others will remember Mildred Hathaway. She is a charter member of GPS. Our organization has benefited greatly from her membership and leadership. A review of Mildred's participation in local history projects is a review of the founding history of the Galway Preservation Society.

If one could pick a starting point for GPS, it would probably be at a meeting of the Galway Bicentennial Committee in 1974. Mildred and Harry Hathaway were general chairmen of the committee's first event on November 2, 1974, celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Elizabeth Kelly, the first white child born in Galway. In 1975 Mildred prepared a bicentennial house tour map to go with the book, *Galway Today with Glimpses of the Past*, compiled by Harry. Their next bicentennial project was arranging for the reproduction of a piece of salt-glazed stoneware made in Galway by Hudson and French Pottery. Mildred took orders and distributed 127 pieces of the pottery. The profits from this project and funds received in memory of Harry, who died in 1978, were used for landscaping at the Joseph Henry Elementary School.

The bicentennial committee activities brought about a renewed interest in local history. By 1981 our Galway Preservation Society had been formed. Mildred was president for at least two terms. In 1982 she teamed up with Kenda Clifford to organize a Homecoming Day for anyone who had attended Galway School. More than 500 people attended, and a Galway Central School Directory was published. In 1983, the Society purchased a two-drawer file cabinet for the storage of historic records and photos. Members of the archives committee were Mildred Hathaway, June Michelfelder, Florence Reedy, Arlene Rhodes, and Pat Sanders. The file cabinet was placed in the high school library where community members could do research. Because of this cooperative effort with the school, GPS received one of the Heritage Awards presented by the Federation of Historical Services in 1984. Mildred also organized a welcome reception at the high school for new residents. She drove around

town gathering names of newcomers from mailboxes, and sent out invitations. At the reception she showed colored slides she had taken of Town landmarks. These were given to the Joseph Henry Elementary School for use in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade social studies curriculum. She also identified historic sites in the Town of Galway on school bus tours for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers.

With a growing interest in local history and a penchant for detail and accuracy, Mildred devoted time to research and publication for GPS and other organizations. In 1980 and 1981 Mildred served on a committee that arranged for the reproduction of two sets of real-photo postcards of Galway in the early 1900s with historical captions. When Mildred's good friend Elsie Maddaus wrote *Brief History of the Galway United Methodist Church to 1978*, Mildred was the church historian. She helped Elsie with the research and handled the photos. In 1984 she prepared *Index and Errata for Stories and Pictures of Galway by W. Bronson Taylor*, a GPS publication. In 1986 she completed her Inventory of Jersey Hill Cemetery, including sketches of the stones. Mildred did research locally and at the library in Oakland, California for a GPS planned publication on Horace W. Carpentier. Her article, "Grass Roots," tracing the lineage and history of the Carpentier family, is in the GPS archives. In 1988 she wrote a booklet for elementary school students, *Glass Factory Mountain*, published by the National Bottle Museum.

As a member of the GPS committee in charge of the Village of Galway Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1988, Mildred arranged for a second set of reproduction Hudson and French salt-glazed stoneware in a different style from the 1976 set. "The cost has skyrocketed," she said, "so it remains to be seen how popular this set will be." A total of 550 stoneware crocks were sold. With \$4,000 in the treasury that year, GPS President Herb Kopper teased Mildred, who was treasurer, about taking a trip to Aruba. Weeks later, someone in our community asked Mildred how she enjoyed Aruba! The ending of the story is that Mildred did travel to Aruba in 1999, long after she was GPS treasurer.

Among the projects for the Sesquicentennial celebration was a publication, *Galway Yesterday and To-*

day. It earned our Society its second Heritage Award from the Federation of Historical Services, for which Mildred had applied. She also submitted the application for an individual award given to Society member C. Donald Carpenter for his original Galway Village map of 1838.

One final credit for GPS success must be given to Mildred. In 1988, she did the research and compiled ten pages of supporting information detailing activities, publications, and awards for the application for our provisional charter, which Galway Preservation Society received from the NYS Education Department in 1989.

Mildred and her husband Harry moved to Galway in 1946. In 1948 they bought the Anderson farm on Consaul Road where they raised their five children, Charles, Carol, Bonnie, Bill and John. Mildred taught in Galway schools for a few years and went on to teach special education in Schenectady. She always found time for many other activities. She served as lay leader at her church and taught Sunday school, participated in the book group and genealogy group at Ballston Spa Public Library, taught chair caning to inmates at the County jail, and delivered Meals on Wheels. A member of the Galway Senior Citizens, she was on the staff of the *Glowegee Scroll* and served as program chair. She is a life member of the WCTU. At the National Bottle Museum, she lectured and served as a docent, librarian and member of the board of trustees. And when there was free time, Mildred reupholstered chairs and sofas, braided rugs, sewed and altered clothing, and played bridge.

In 1990 Mildred moved to Rochester, New York. She came back to celebrate the Town of Galway Bicentennial with us in 1992, and continues to be a GPS member. In "Reminiscences" which was published in the GPS Journal, May 2011, Mildred said, "...living in Galway meeting many friends was the best part of my life."

Mildred will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a time for GPS members to celebrate her birthday and to celebrate her contributions to our Society. Please join me in sending your best wishes and your special memory of her to Mildred Hathaway, 3 Treeline Drive, Apt. #108, Rochester, New York 14612.



Mildred Hathaway and Arlene Rhodes  
Galway Village Sesquicentennial May 1988

Galway Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 276  
Galway, New York 12074